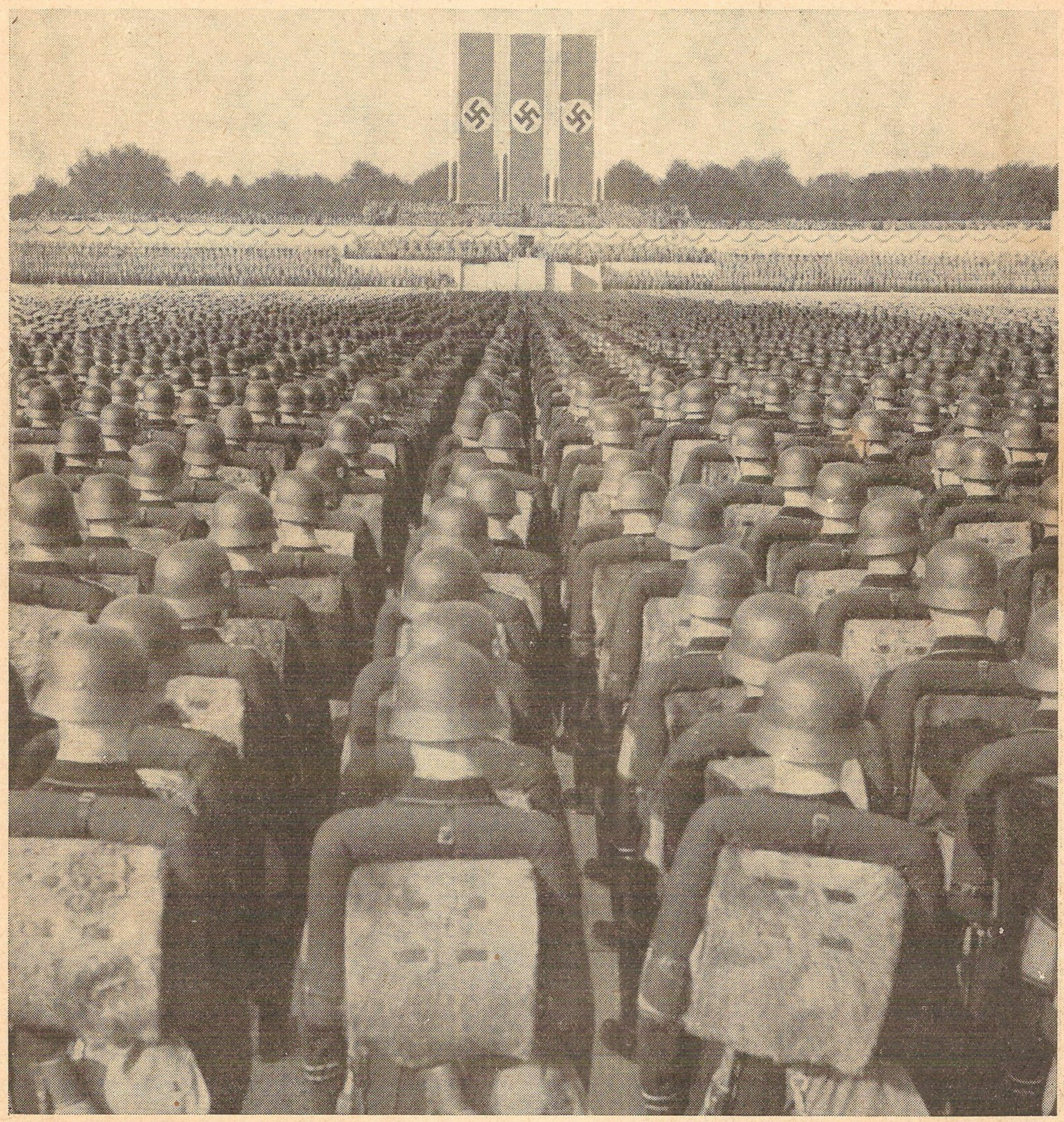
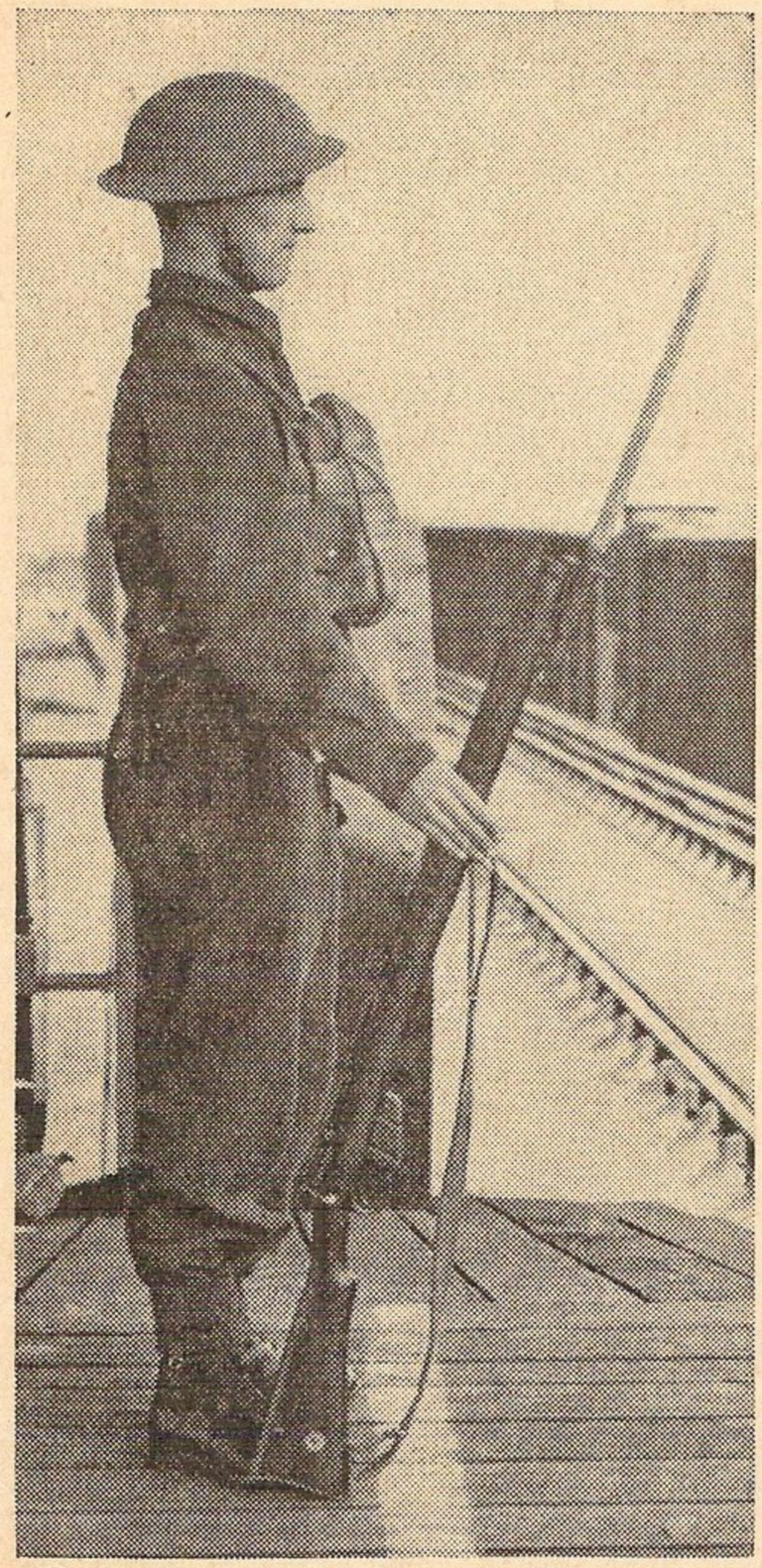
The WAR ILLUSTRATED

Vol. 1. A Permanent Picture Record of the Second Great War No. 1.



Red-letter days in the Nazi calendar are the gigantic demonstrations of military might and hysterical fervour held at Nuremberg. As shown in this photograph, the ceremony resembles a mighty communion, in which massed ranks of hundreds of thousands of worshippers of a God of Blood and Iron receive the Nazi " Sacrament " from their Leader. These are the storm troopers—poor devils—bred for Nazi cannon-fodder.

Photo, Associated Press



Fully-equipped with his steel helmet, gas mask and fixed bayonet, this sentry keeps guard over a London railway bridge.

Why We Are At War

Confronted by the record in other pages of the things Hitler has said and the things he has done, the reader will be in small doubt as to the immediate reasons which have compelled Britain to go to war. Now in this chapter we are given a revelation of the principle that we are fighting—the principle that Might is Right.

WHEN Britain went to war in 1914 many reasons were advanced for the tremendous step. The primary cause of the War, of course, was the invasion of Belgium, whose integrity and independence we had been pledged to defend since the Belgian kingdom had come into existence. Of the tens of thousands, the hundreds of thousands, who stormed the doors of the recruiting stations in those early days of war twenty-five years ago, the great majority had left their homes and jobs because of their resolve to avenge the violation of an innocent little people by the Prussian bully.

Another reason was Anglo-German rivalry in the field of commerce and in the sphere of world politics. This rivalry was something more than a clash of interest; rather it was a conflict of principle. Even at the beginning of the War it was realised that Britain was fighting for Democracy against Autocracy in general and Prussian imperialistic militarism in particular. "We are fighting Germany," wrote H. G. Wells in the first number of THE WAR ILLUSTRATED, published on August 22, 1914. "But we are fighting without any hatred of the German people. We do not intend to destroy either their freedom or their unity. But we have to destroy an evil system of government and the mental and material corruption that has got hold of the German imagination and taken possession of German life . . . . And also we have to learn from the failure of that victory to avoid a vindictive triumph."

"Prussian Militarism," continued Mr. Wells, "is an intolerable nuisance in the earth. Ever since the crushing of the French in 1871 the evil thing has grown and cast its spreading shadow over Europe . . . But now at last we shake ourselves free and turn upon this boasting wickedness to rid the world of it. The whole world is tired of it. And 'Gott,' Gott so perpetually invoked—Gott indeed must be very tired of it."

If the world was tired of it in 1914, it was still more tired of it in 1918, after a struggle in which all the resources of the greatest nations had been exhausted in an orgy of destruction and, more appalling still, the blood of millions of the best and bravest had been poured out on the battlefield. When the "Cease fire" sounded on that Armistice Day in 1918, there was little carefree jubilation, practically nothing of the nature of triumphing over a vanquished foe. In every nation there was one thought uppermost in the minds of the people—the thought that they were at last awaking from a nightmare of unrelieved horror. In all countries, too, it was said, and said with hard determination, that this evil thing which had come upon the world must and should be exorcised now and for evermore.

On the evening of Saturday, September 2, the newspaper placards told the London crowds that war, if it had not actually begun, was but a matter of a few hours. The armed forces of the Crown mobilized, and (even more significant for those who remembered the rape of Belgium a quarter of a century before) the invasion of Poland—these removed the last shred of hope that even yet peace might be preserved.

Photos, Wide World

Was Prussianism Smashed?

And on the face of it, it seemed indeed that Prussian militarism had not only been defeated but had been completely smashed. Kaiserism and all that it stood for was kicked into the gutter by the German troops and populace as they realized the bitterness of defeat and endured the humiliations of the Peace.

They had entered the war with the most confident hopes of glory and easy conquest; when it was ended theirs was a country through which stalked relentlessly the spectres of famine and revolution. Even the victorious powers were in little better plight. They had won—but at what a price!

So it was that in 1919 men of good will everywhere strove to build a new world from which the spirit of militarism and all those vilenesses which are best expressed by the word "Prussianism" had been completely banished—and for ever. Gradually Europe and the world settled

Types of the Men Who Fight and Suffer

Briton, Frenchman, German and Pole—here are typical soldiers destined to play their part in the struggle of 1939. Cheerfully smiling, is the R.E. sergeant, like his predecessor of 1914–1918, confident in his cause and his leaders. The poilu stands ready in his new equipment. Below right, the Polish soldier is the epitome of sturdy valour ; while the young Germans no doubt remember that they are "Jerry's" sons.

Photos, Keystone, Wide World, L.E.A., Paul Popper

down from the strain and loss of the great war. The material losses were largely repaired, though, alas, the gaps in the generations could never be filled. In Germany there were signs of the firm foundations of a new order—an order of true liberalism, of toleration, and enlightened, peace-loving and peace-ensuing democracy.

With what apprehension, then, and later with what horror, did the outside world discern the phoenix-like growth in Germany of something which was all too plainly akin to the Prussianism which it was believed the war had finally killed!

Some would blame this rebirth of a thing essentially ugly and evil upon the great slump which deprived Germany of her economic and financial supports. Others have it that there is something essentially militaristic in the German spirit. Yet others adopt the kinder—and, let us hope, truer—view that the average German is one who is constitutionally better fitted to be led rather than to play an active part in a political system which can only function properly if all, or at least the majority, of the citizens are prepared to make their contribution to its proper working.

The German, in a word, has a passion for regimentation; he loves order, and is not at all averse to being ordered about. In the cold air of the Weimar republic he felt it difficult to breathe; it demanded of him a knowledge, a spirit of toleration, a willingness to take part in dull and uninteresting work, which he found it difficult to afford in an age of scarcity and insecurity.

Nazism removed from him the necessity of taking thought. He willingly gave up those rights and liberties which are regarded as the very life-blood of British citizenship. He gladly agreed to sink his individuality in that of the mass; he concurred in that final stage of self-stultification, the subordination of the individual to the totalitarian god—the all-powerful, allegedly all-knowing, supposedly all-wise State.

Hypnotized and deluded by the messianic promises of the Leader, his conscience stifled by the assertions of the new ideology, his reason deafened by the clamour of the drums—the German abandoned his interest in politics to the men of the Nazi machine—men who, to the world at large, came to resemble ever more closely the gangsters of the American underworld. All that spoke of the liberal Germany of Stresemann—let alone of the Germany of Goethe and Schiller, Kant and Mendelssohn—was spurned with contumely. Christianity was assailed, and the crude paganism of the old Teutons was officially resurrected.

At first the world outside refused to believe that the Germany which had travailed so hardly in 1919 was so soon lying on its deathbed. But it was not long before the last illusions were crushed beneath the hammer-blows of Nazi might. In the reoccupation of the Rhineland, the reintroduction of conscription, the creation of an air force; in the cruel bullying and eventual seizure of Austria; in the successful dismemberment and final engorging of the democratic republic of Czecho-Slovakia; finally in the onslaught upon a Poland which had committed the greatest crime in the Nazi calendar—refusal to submit to the most outrageous demands presented at the point of the pistol—in all these the one argument used was FORCE.

As Mr. Chamberlain declared in his noble pronouncement over the wireless Hitler's "action shows convincingly that there is no chance of expecting that this man will ever give up his practice of using force to gain his will. He can only be stopped by force."

When historians come to write the record of these momentous days and weeks, they will no doubt have to say that there were many other reasons why Britain took up a sword for the second time against Germany. For us, living in this critical moment, the situation is plain. The things we are fighting against are, to quote Mr. Chamberlain again, "the evil things—brute force, bad faith, injustice, oppression and persecution."

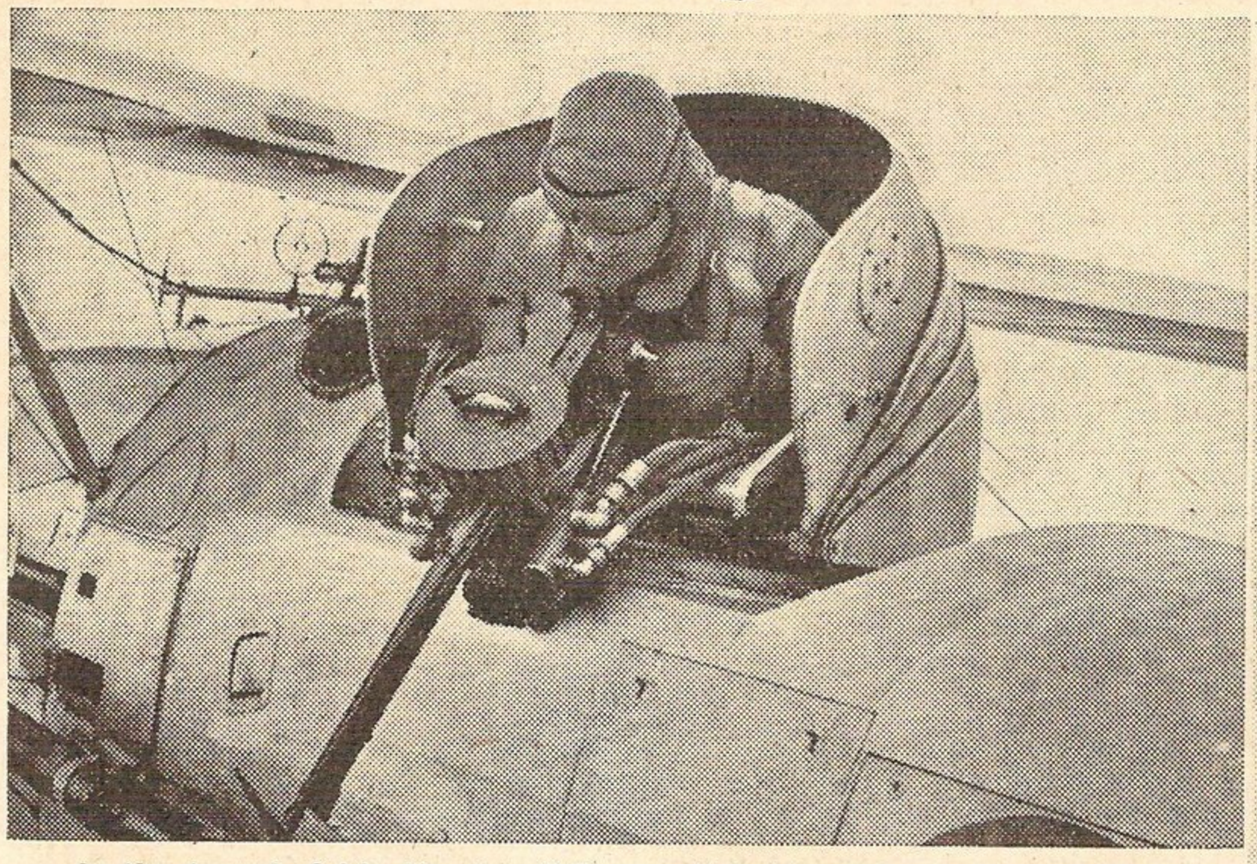
In 1939, as in 1914, the enemy is the same. Then we called it by the name of Prussian Militarism: today we know it as Nazism. Under whatever name it is a foul growth, something to be cut out of the body of the nations.

And that we shall most surely do, if, in the words of the King, we "stand calm, firm and united"—if we "do the right as we see the right, and reverently commit our cause to God."

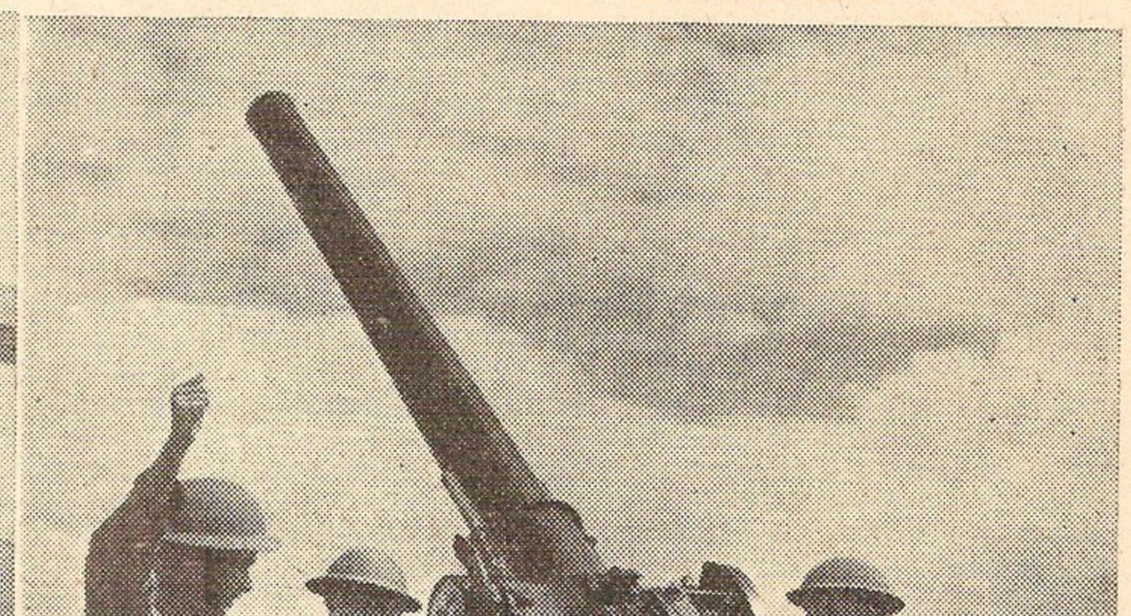
As Britain drew nearer to the hour of war, men in uniform appeared in ever increasing numbers. These photos, taken at Waterloo on the day of mobilization, show naval reservists stepping out to join the train for Portsmouth, and (below) a group of Army N.C.O.s getting ready to march off.

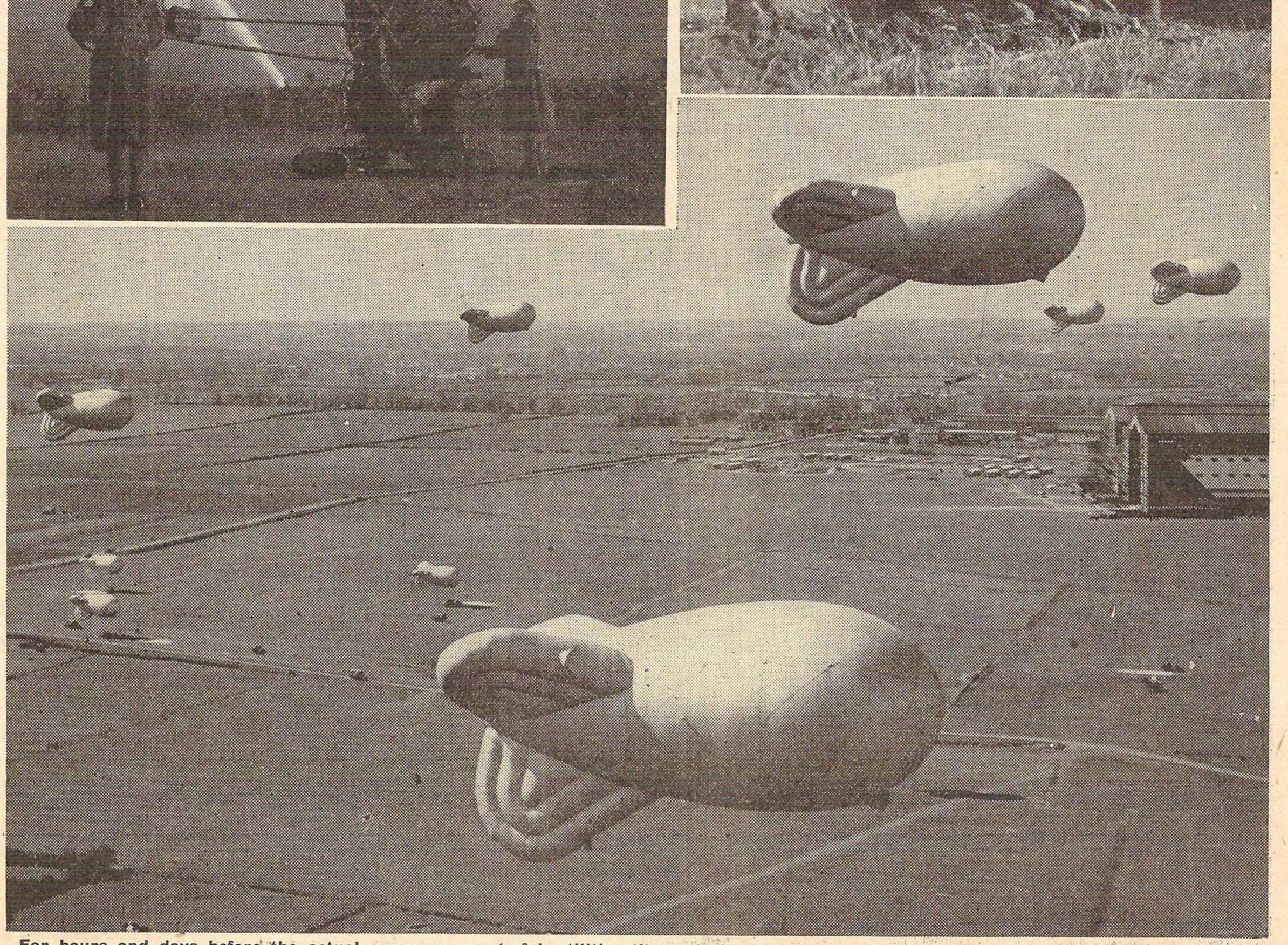
Photos, Keystone, Sport and General

How We Fight the Raiders from the Skies



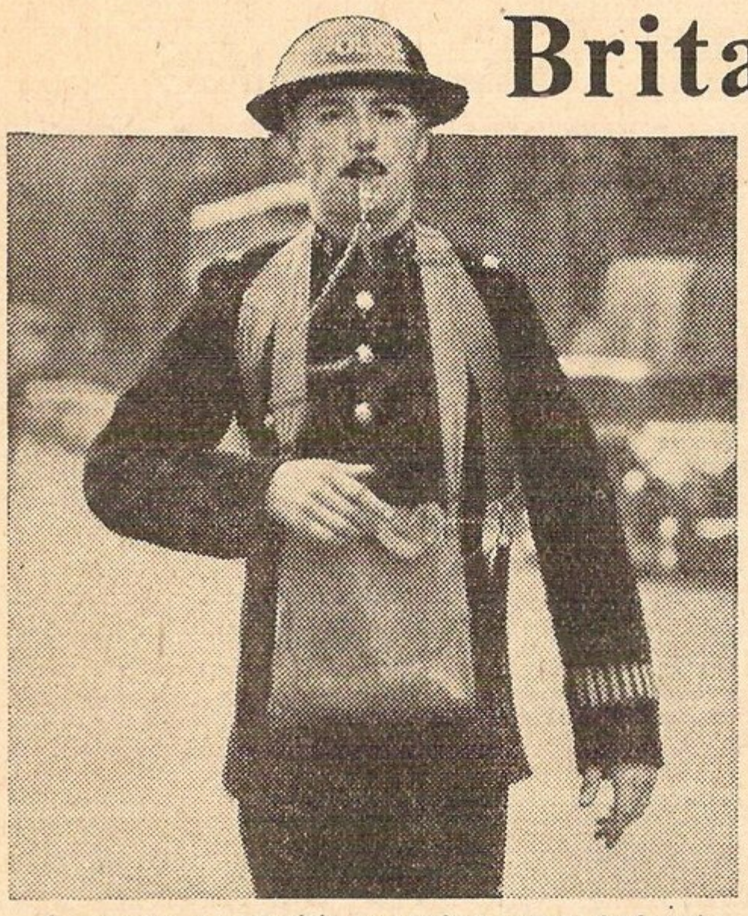
In the turret of his Hawker "Demon" fighter this warrior of the skies sights his gun.





For hours and days before the actual commencement of hostilities the anti-aircraft defences of Britain were manned and fully equipped. Top right, a gun crew makes ready for action. Middle, a London searchlight probes the night sky. Bottom, balloons of the R.A.F. balloon barrage, a most impressive and reassuring sight, being sent up. *Photos, Chas. E. Brown, Associated Press and Fox*

Britain's First Air Raid Warnings



A police constable wearing steel helmet and carrying his gas mask gives the warning by blowing his whistle.

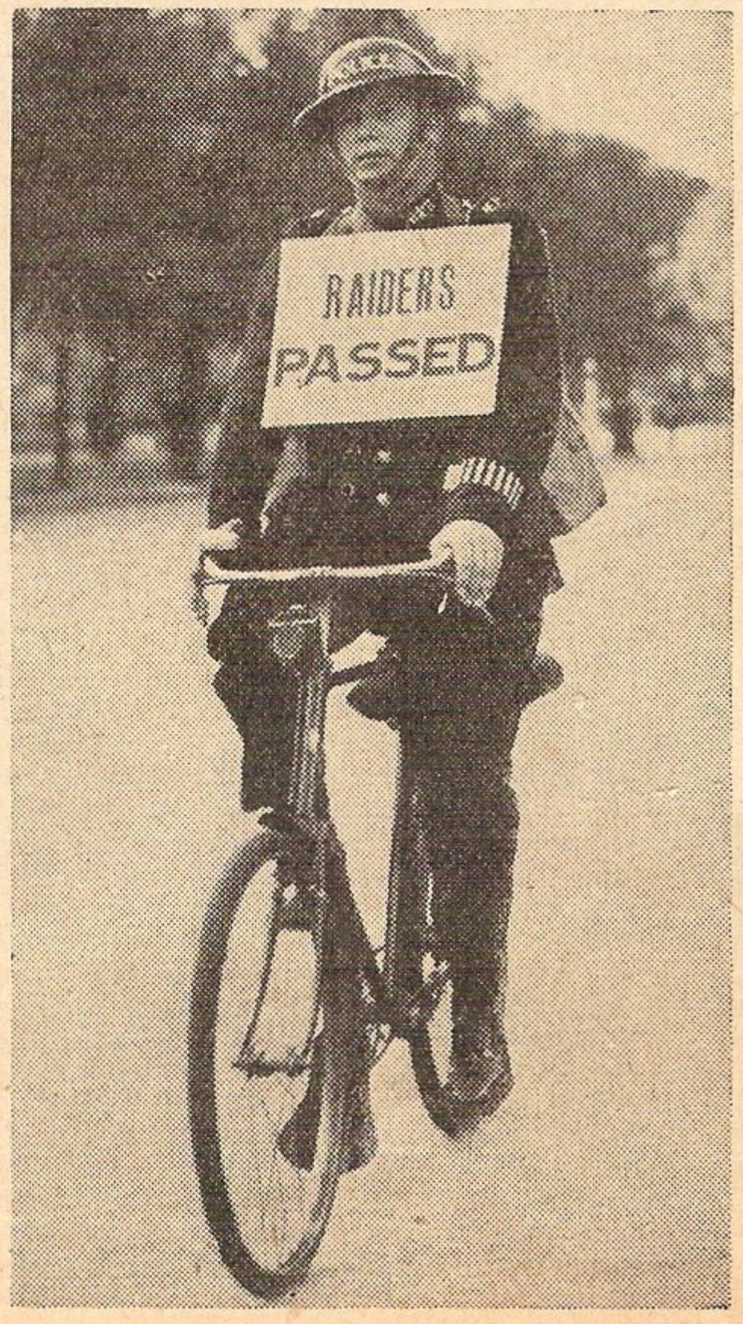
HALF an hour after the war began, Britain received her first air raid warning. Everywhere in London and the southern and eastern counties the sirens wailed their note of warning.

Surprised and hardly believing, the people listened. There was not the slightest sign of panic. The Air Raid Wardens repeated the warning on their whistles, and the people proceeded at once in the most orderly fashion to their shelters. Auxiliary firemen put on their uniforms in readiness for any emergency.

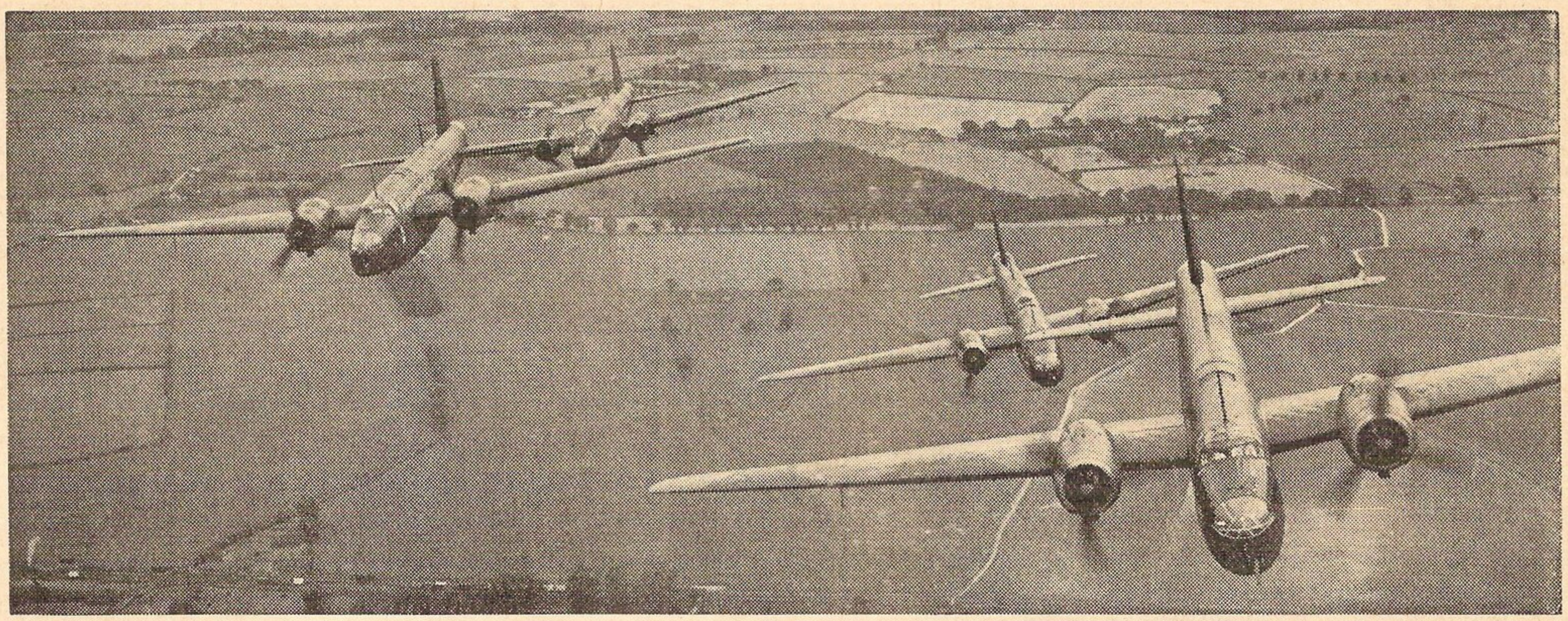
In a few minutes the " All Clear " was sounded, but it was only some hours later that the Air Ministry announced that a strange aircraft had been observed approaching the south coast, and as its identity could not be readily determined, the air raid warning was given. It thus provided excellent practice so that further warnings were received with the same sang-froid.

The photograph above shows Londoners trooping cheerfully into an underground shelter when the first warning was given half an hour after the outbreak of war. Left, a member of a decontamination squad tells a householder to go indoors, and right, a policeman shows the "all clear" notice.

Photos, Topical, Wide World, Associated Press.

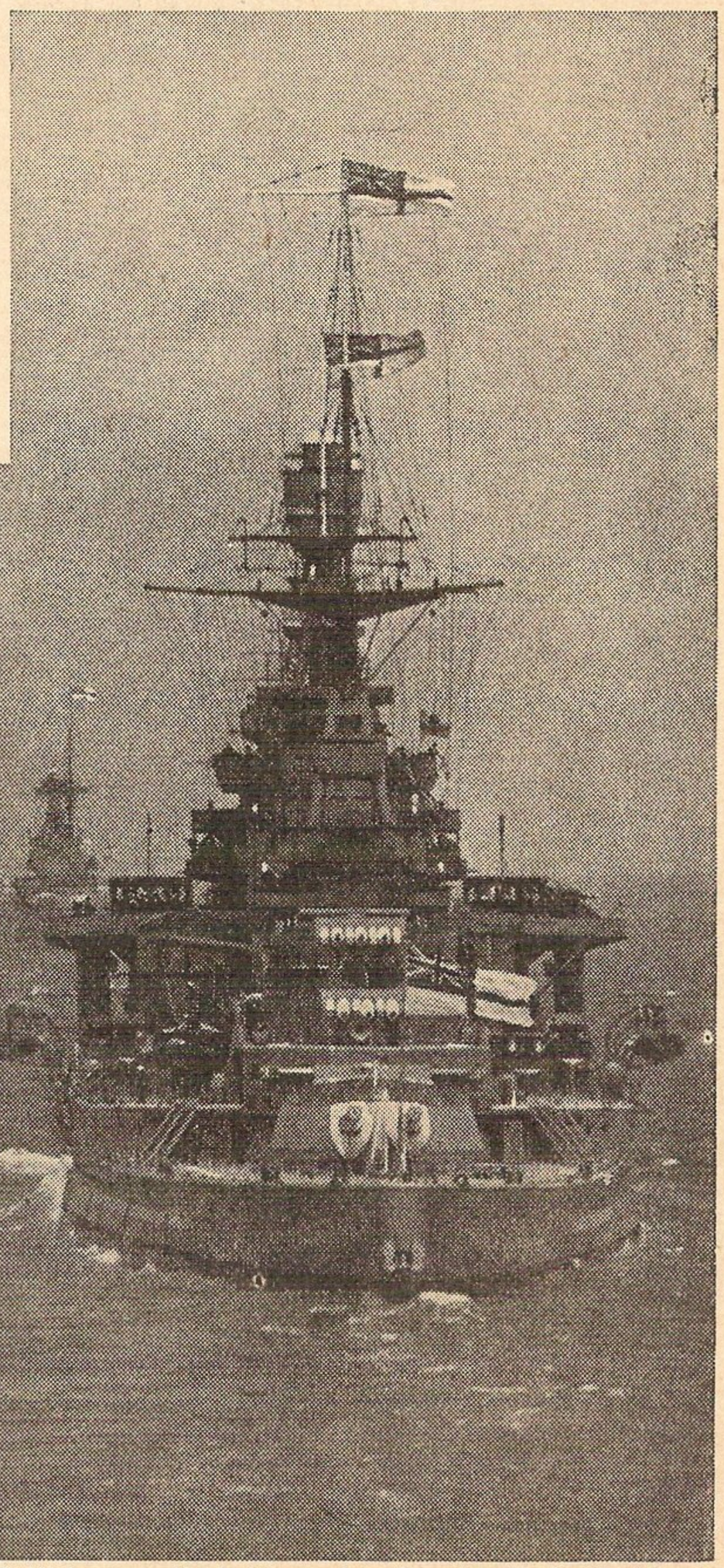


Britain is at Full Strength by Air Land and Sea



Amongst the most powerful of Britain's bombing 'planes are twin-engined Vickers Wellington, seen here in flight.

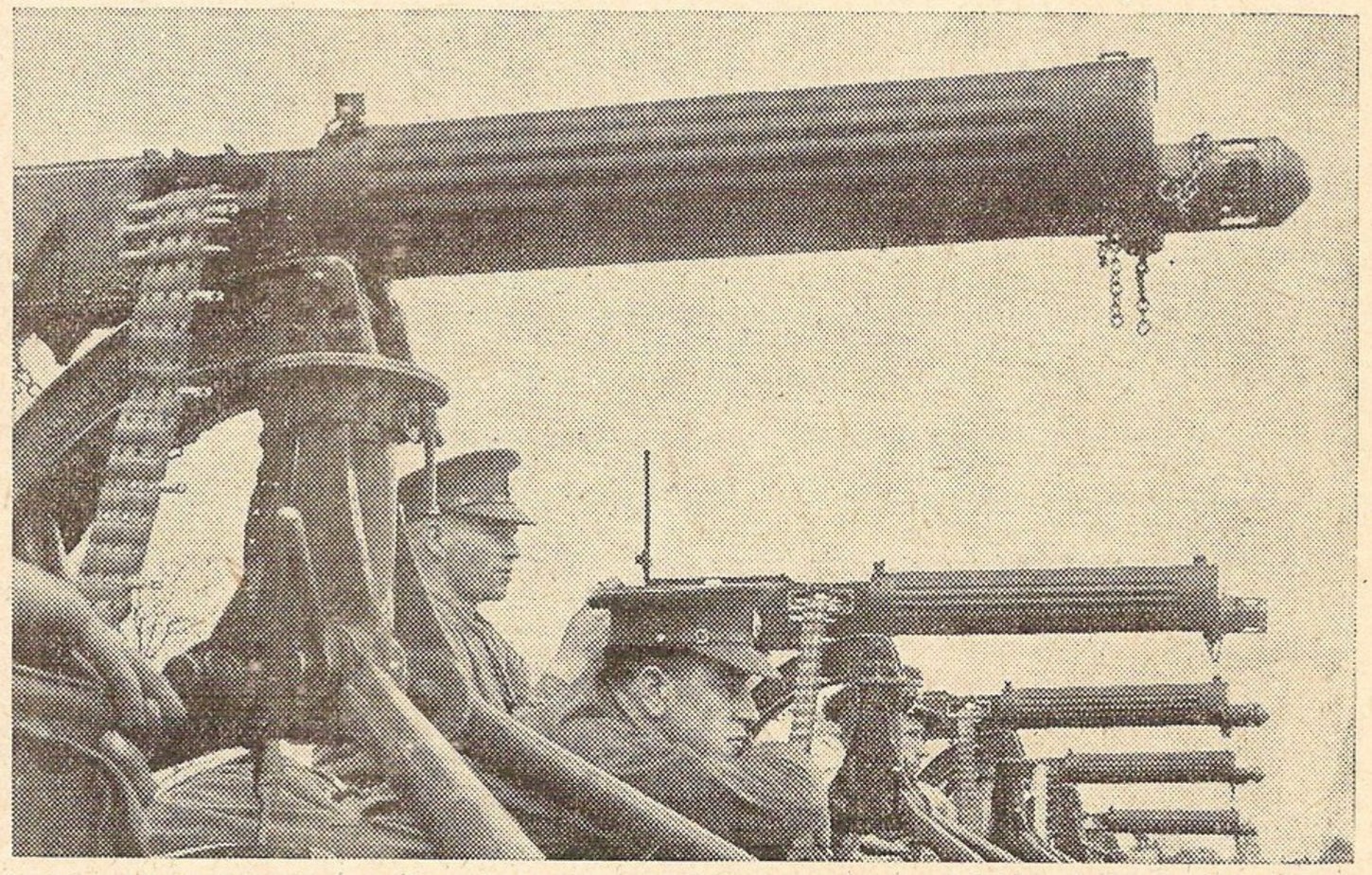
In the Crisis of 1938—that crisis which had its origin in German aggression against Czecho-Slovakia and its outcome in the Munich Conference which dismembered the little republic—Britain's material preparations were supposed by some to have fallen short of what would be required to support her readiness of spirit. For years she had believed, and acted on the belief, that the nations were resolved, in the light of the bitter experience of the Great War of 1914-1918, that war as an instrument of national policy should be abandoned. The unscrupulous conduct of Nazi Germany, however, in attacking her peaceful neighbours led to Britain's realization of her true character and aims, and when Poland's turn had come to receive the German onslaught, "ready, aye ready" was the watchword, and in the armed forces, the civilian defence organizations, and the ranks of the population as a whole, the signs of alert resolution were much in evidence.



Sweeping through the seas in splendid majesty come some of the greatest vessels in the British navy—the battle-cruiser Renown, the battleships Barham, Valiant, Rodney, and Nelson. Floating fortresses of steel and armament, they are manned by men possessed of the same spirit as that which nerved Nelson and Drake and the other gallant sea-dogs of the past. The smaller picture in this page shows an anti-tank gun in action.

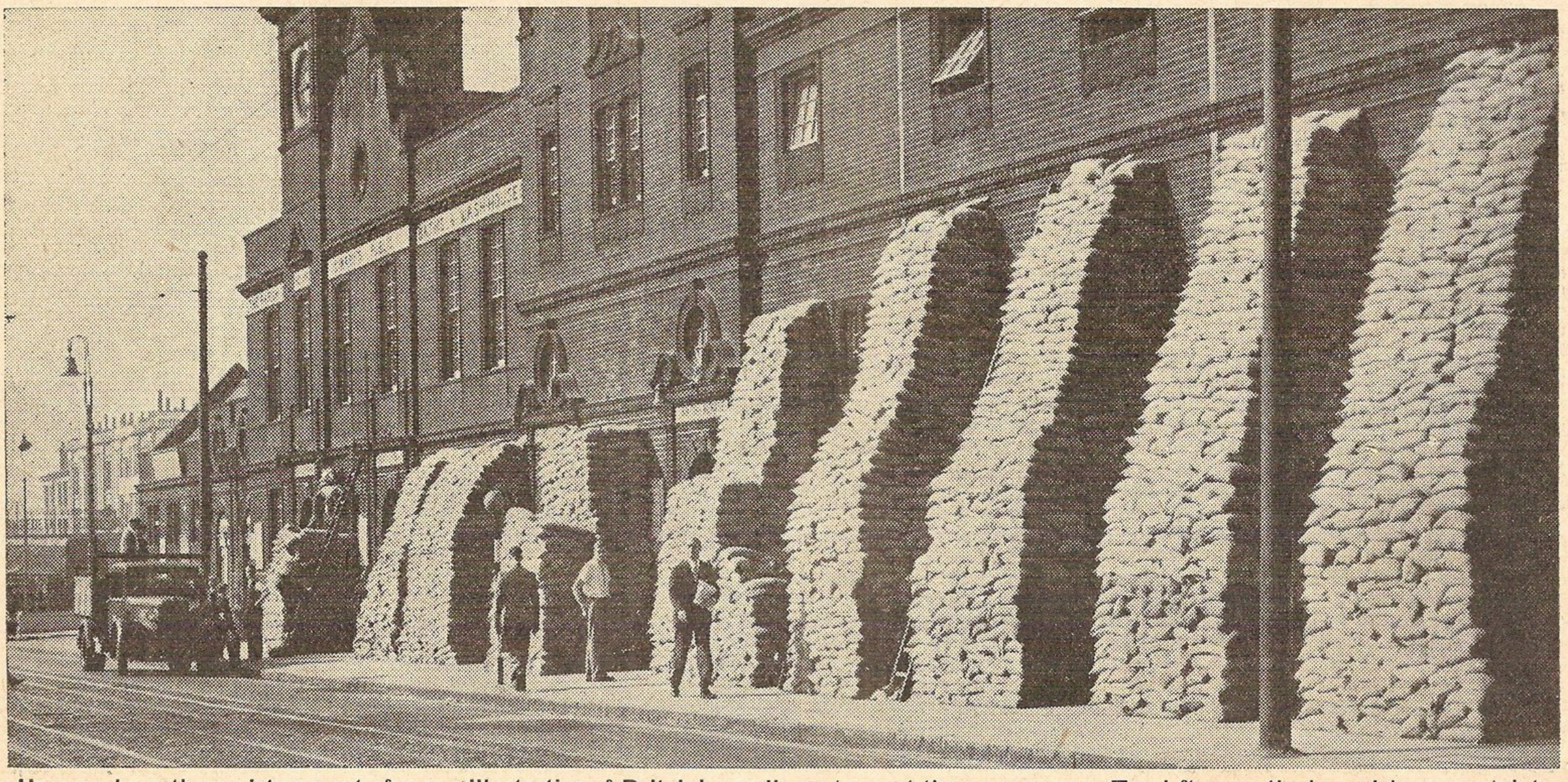
Photos, Chas. E. Brown & Fox

Britain's Home Defences Were All Ready



Men of an infantry regiment on the machine-gun range at Aldershot. In this war more even than in the last the machine-gun is the principal instrument of mobile fire-power.

In the interval that elapsed between the Crisis of September 1938 and that of a year later, Britain made vast strides in preparing for that war which all men of good will still believed might, and should, be averted. Conscription was introduced—an unprecedented step in peace-time so far as this country is concerned; the Territorial Army was brought up to full strength and then doubled; and in the field of A.R.P. gas-masks were distributed to all and shelters constructed in which the people might take refuge from air attack.

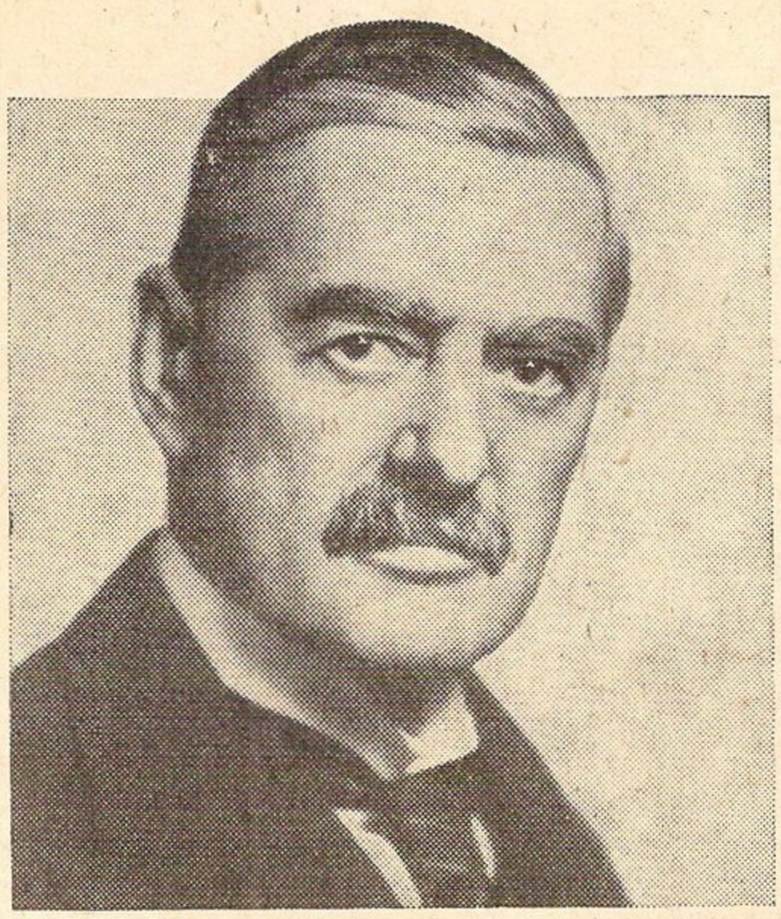


Here we have three pictures out of many illustrative of Britain's readiness to meet the emergency. Top left, even the hop-pickers went into the Kentish fields with their gas-masks. Centre, some of the new militiamen making the acquaintance in camp of a big gun. Below, baths in North London converted into a first-aid station, sandbagged as a safeguard against air attack.

Photos, Wide World, Topical and Fox

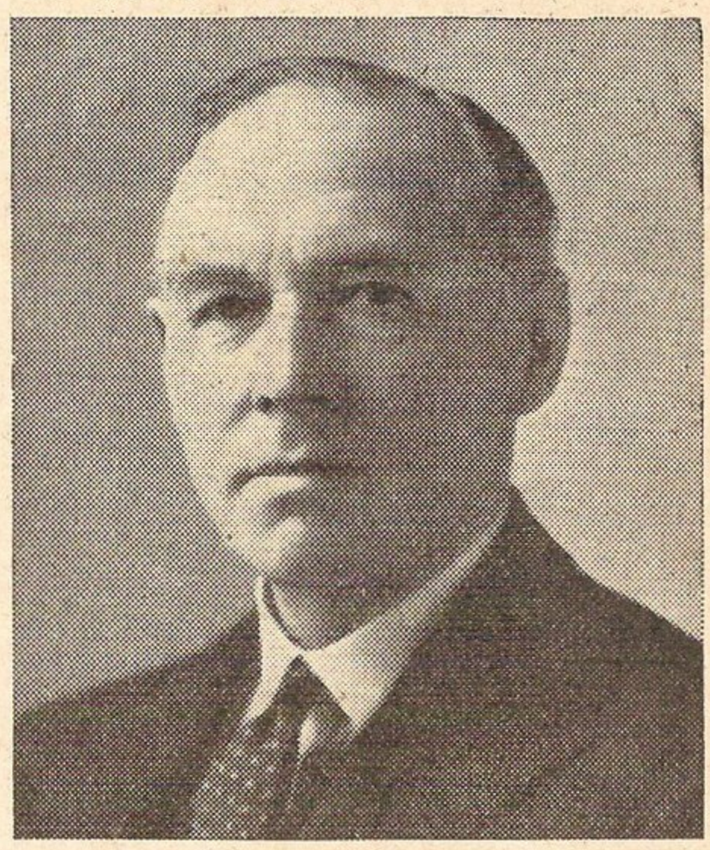
Britain's War Cabinet

Our Fate is in Their Hands

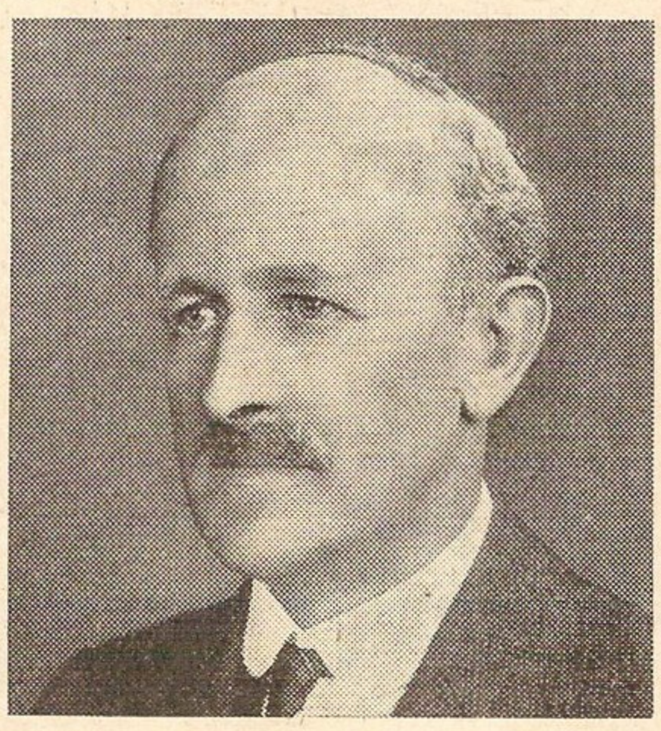


Rt. Hon. NEVILLE CHAMBERLAIN, P.C., M.P. Born in 1869, second son of Joseph Chamberlain, our Prime Minister was appointed Director-General of National Service in 1916. Postmaster-General in 1922, he was Minister of Health in three governments and Chancellor of the Exchequer in two before he succeeded Mr. Baldwin as Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury in 1937.

Rt. Hon. Admiral of the Fleet LORD CHATFIELD (right). Born in 1873, he entered the Navy in 1886. During the Great War he served as Flag Captain to Beatty in H.M.S. Lion during the action off Heligoland in 1914, the Dogger Bank action in 1915, and the Battle of Jutland in 1916. After commanding the Atlantic and Mediterranean Fleets, he became Chief of the Naval Staff in 1933 and in 1939 was appointed Minister for Co-Ordination of Defence.



Rt. Hon. LORD HANKEY (centre left). Born in 1877, Maurice Hankey during the Great War was Secretary of the War Cabinet and of the Imperial War Cabinet. Raised to the peerage in 1939, he became Minister without Portfolio in September 1939.



Rt. Hon. Sir KINGSLEY WOOD, M.P. (centre right). Secretary of State for Air since 1938, he was previously Postmaster-General and Minister of Health. He was born in 1881, and has been M.P. for Woolwich West since 1918.

Rt. Hon. WINSTON CHURCHILL, P.C., C.H., M.P. (outside right). Born in 1874, son of Lord Randolph Churchill and a descendant of the great Duke of Marlborough, Mr. Churchill has occupied more positions of Cabinet rank than any other statesman in British history. He entered the army in 1895 and served in Egypt in 1898, and during the war in South Africa from 1899-1900 as a correspondent of the "Morning Post." From 1900-06 he was a Conservative M.P.; then, in the Liberal governments was President of the Board of Trade, Home Secretary, and First Lord of the Admiralty. Later he became Minister of Munitions, and Secretary for War, and after the War was Secretary for the Colonies and then Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Rt. Hon. Sir SAMUEL HOARE (left). Born in 1880, he was Air Secretary in 1922, Secretary for India in 1931, and for Foreign Affairs in 1935. Home Secretary in 1937, in 1939 he became Lord Privy Seal.

Rt. Hon. LESLIE HORE-BELISHA, P.C., M.P. (centre). Secretary of State for War since 1937. He was Minister of Transport from 1934-37.

Rt. Hon. VISCOUNT HALIFAX, P.C. (right). Born in 1881, Edward Wood was appointed Viceroy of India in 1926 and elevated to the peerage as Baron Irwin. Returning in 1931, he is now Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

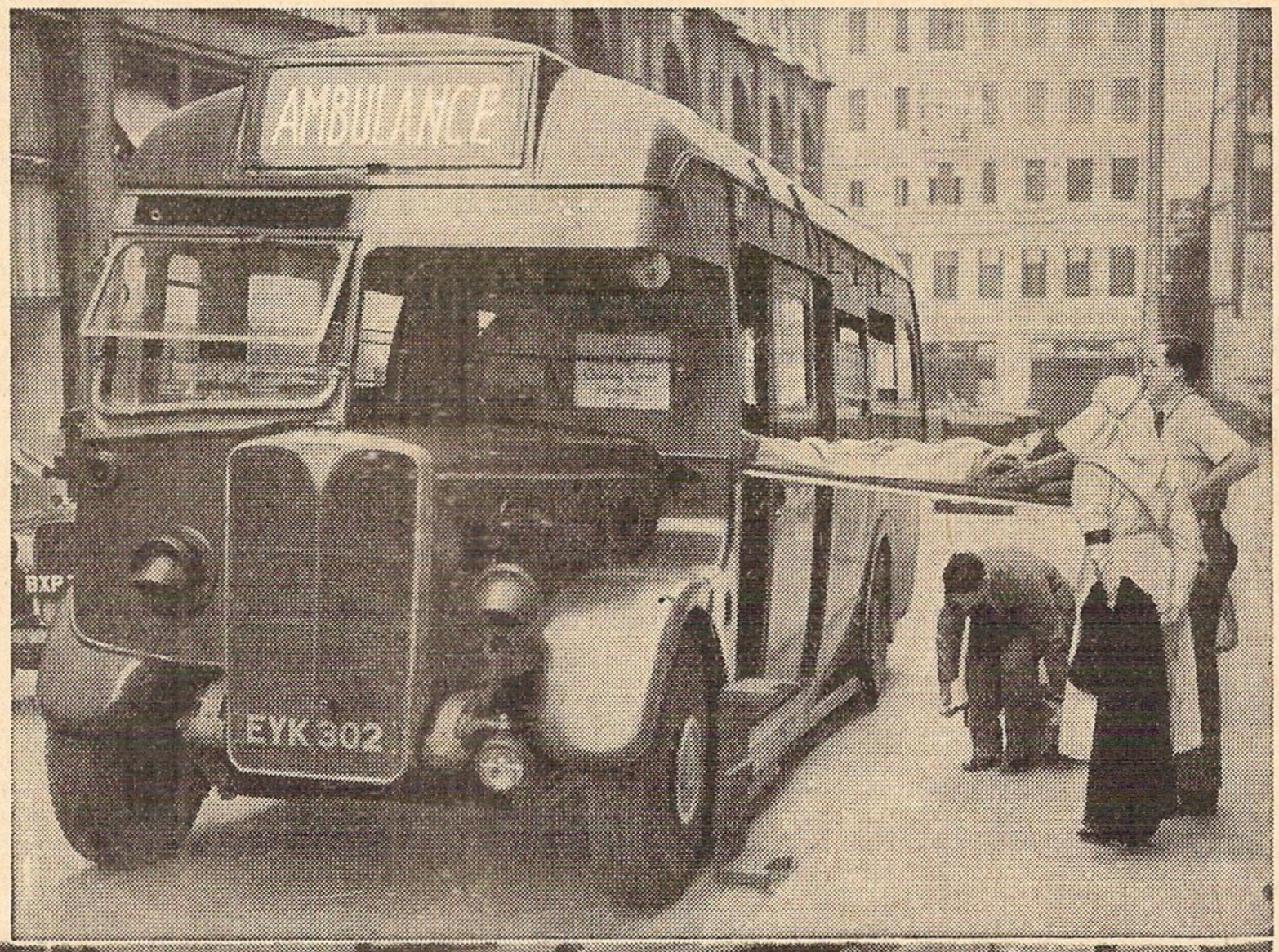
Rt. Hon. Sir JOHN SIMON (outside right). He became Foreign Secretary in 1931, Home Secretary in 1935, and Chancellor of the Exchequer in 1937.

Photos, Wide World, Topical, Keystone, Bassano, Vandyk

The Children's Trek to Safety:

Among Britain's emergency preparations was the evacuation of large numbers of children, mothers, and sick and infirm folk from the overcrowded cities. These pictures illustrate the great move proceeding "according to plan."

The first stage to safety for many children was down an escalator to the Underground.



Photos, Keystone, L.N.A. and Fox Photos

In the top photograph hospital patients well enough to travel are being taken in one of the familiar "Green Line" coaches to peace and safety. In centre photograph mothers and children, with father carrying the baby, start out from Streatham on the first stage of their journey. Happiest of all, perhaps, were some thousands of children who made the journey to their new homes by steamer. Above, children are embarking on the Golden Eagle at Dagenham for transport to a safety zone.

LONG before the state of emergency was declared, plans for the evacuation of urban children had been framed with the most careful precision. When "zero hour" came school-teachers marched with their classes to the trains, buses, coaches and steamers that had been provided for their transport, and without a hitch the vast exodus was carried through to a triumphant conclusion. By Saturday evening, the first day of the move, hundreds of thousands of boys and girls were settling down in their new homes in country villages and towns far removed from the danger zones in the congested cities.

A Triumph of British Civilian Organization

London children learn that ring-a-roses is an even happier game amid grass and trees than it is on an asphalt playground.

IN the four days ending Monday, Sept. 4, 650,000 schoolchildren and others were evacuated from Greater London. No tribute was more highly earned than that paid by Mr. Herbert Morrison, M.P., Leader of the L.C.C., to the splendid behaviour and bearing of the thousands of Londoners who had been concerned in the evacuation in various ways. In the great cities of the Provinces, too, there was the same story to tell of careful planning and complete success.

Evacuation of children north and south is shown in these two photographs. Left, three happy youngsters from Stepney, out of bed at 5 a.m., labelled and carrying full equipment, are ready for a great adventure. Right, children from a Northern evacuation area are being handed over to their temporary parents at Blackpool by those who have marshalled them from their homes. At the other end of their journey the children had a reception that justified their high hopes.

Photos: Keystone, Fox Photos and L.N.A.

The Dastardly Sinking of the 'Athenia'

Hardly had the world realized that war had again begun when it received with a thrill of horror the news that the German U-boats had claimed their first victim. Without a word of warning, a passenger liner was torpedoed and sent to the bottom, 200 miles from land. The crime is described below and in a later page.

On the night of Sunday, September 3rd—the first night of the war, so far as Britain was concerned—the moon, rising above the sea some 200 miles beyond the Irish coast, looked down upon a scene of horror such as had not been witnessed since the close of the Great War. In the silvery waters a ship, mortally stricken, was sinking, while the sea about her was illumined by the flares borne by the boats lowered from her doomed shape.

Pathetic scenes were witnessed at Galway as the Athenia survivors were landed.

A few minutes before, the Athenia had been pursuing a steady course en route from Belfast to Montreal. Her 1,400 passengers had been seated in the lounges or at the dinner tables, talking about the war which had so suddenly come upon the world, and fondly anticipating the reunion with their relatives and friends which they confidently expected in the course of a few days. Among them were several hundred Americans returning from their curtailed visits to London or Paris, and also many refugees who, fleeing from the terror on the Continent, were seeking in the New World that peace and security which had been denied them in their homeland.

Suddenly, as dusk fell, the ship shivered beneath a shock. Few could have guessed the cause of the explosion, but without a trace of panic passengers proceeded to their lifeboat stations.

They were not left long in doubt. According to several of the survivors who reported their experiences the next day, they saw a short distance away, emerging from the waters, the sinister hull of a submarine; it turned a gun on the ship and fired at her wireless . . . Within a few hours, then, of the opening of the war, the German U-boats had made their reappearance.

There ensued a succession of horrors, illumined by many a flash of human bravery and endurance. One by one the boats were lowered into the sea. In the hurry of the moment—perchance owing, too, to the list of the sinking vessel—some capsized, throwing their human load into the waters. From all sides came desperate shouts for help.

Meanwhile the ship's S O S signals had been received, and many a vessel hurried forthwith to the Athenia's rescue. About 2.30 on the Monday morning the steam yacht Southern Cross arrived and found that already the merchantman Knute Nelson was standing by and had rescued a number of passengers. Somewhat later three English destroyers dashed up at top speed and took part in the rescue operations.

All through the night and the hours of morning the Athenia settled in the water. At 10 a.m. her bow thrust itself into the air; then she sank into those waters which twenty years before had formed a grave for so many brave British ships.

When the survivors were landed they had much to tell of heroism of all who had played a great part in the ordeal.

"Marvellous crew, heroic passengers, perfect morale," was the general verdict. Yet they had, too, many stories to tell that were heartrending in their stark simplicity.

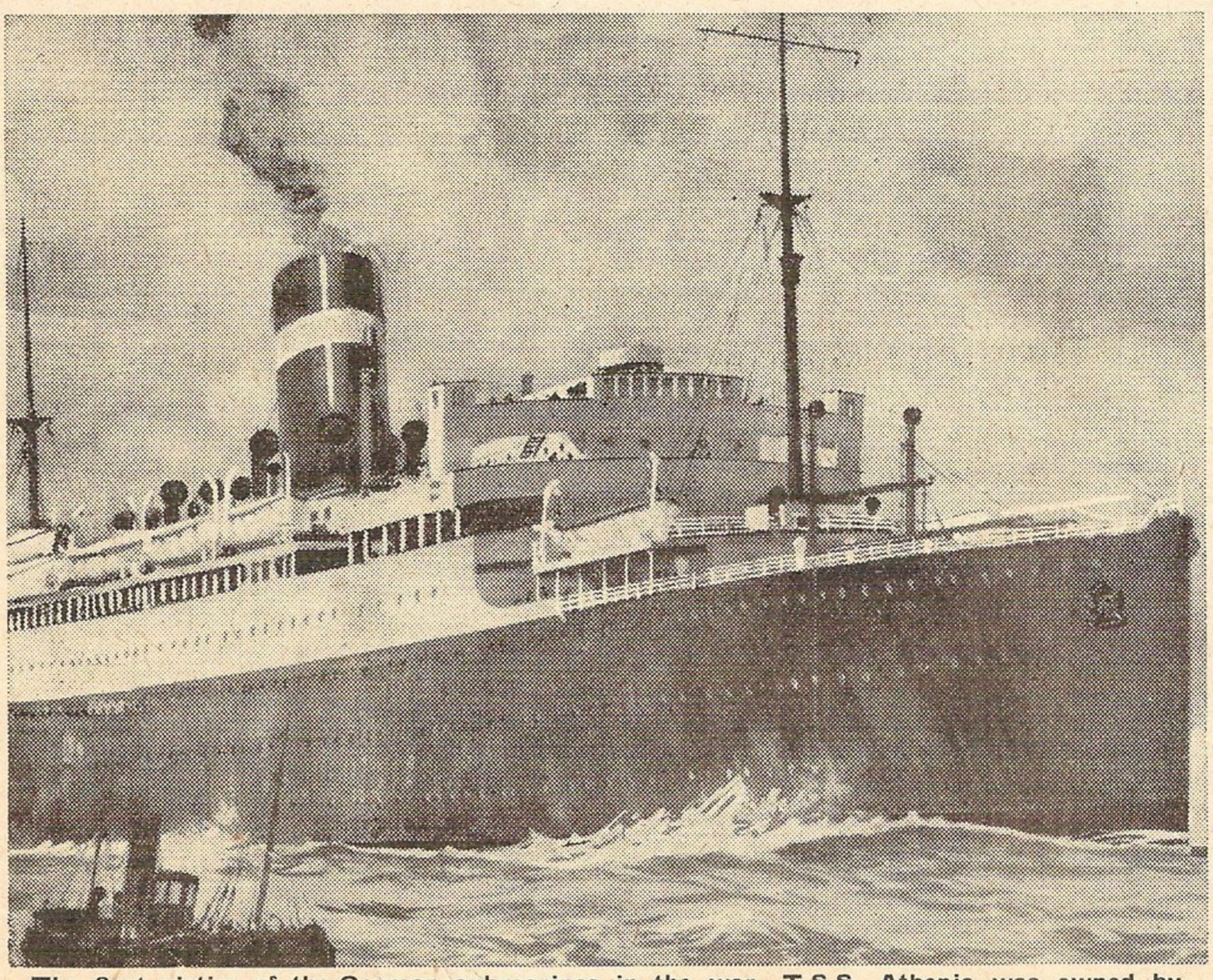
"One lifeboat turned turtle nearing the stern," said a message from the Southern Cross. "Our seamen rescued most. A man stood on the keel and dragged the drowning ones from the water. A young woman pulled from the water sat for a moment quietly in the rescue boat and then, screaming "My baby!" leaped into the sea.

"One boat was swamped near our bow. All hands were engaged in hauling aboard those from another one and we were helpless to save. Their screams were heartrending.

"Lifeboats were crammed to the danger point, many filling with water and people sitting waist deep.

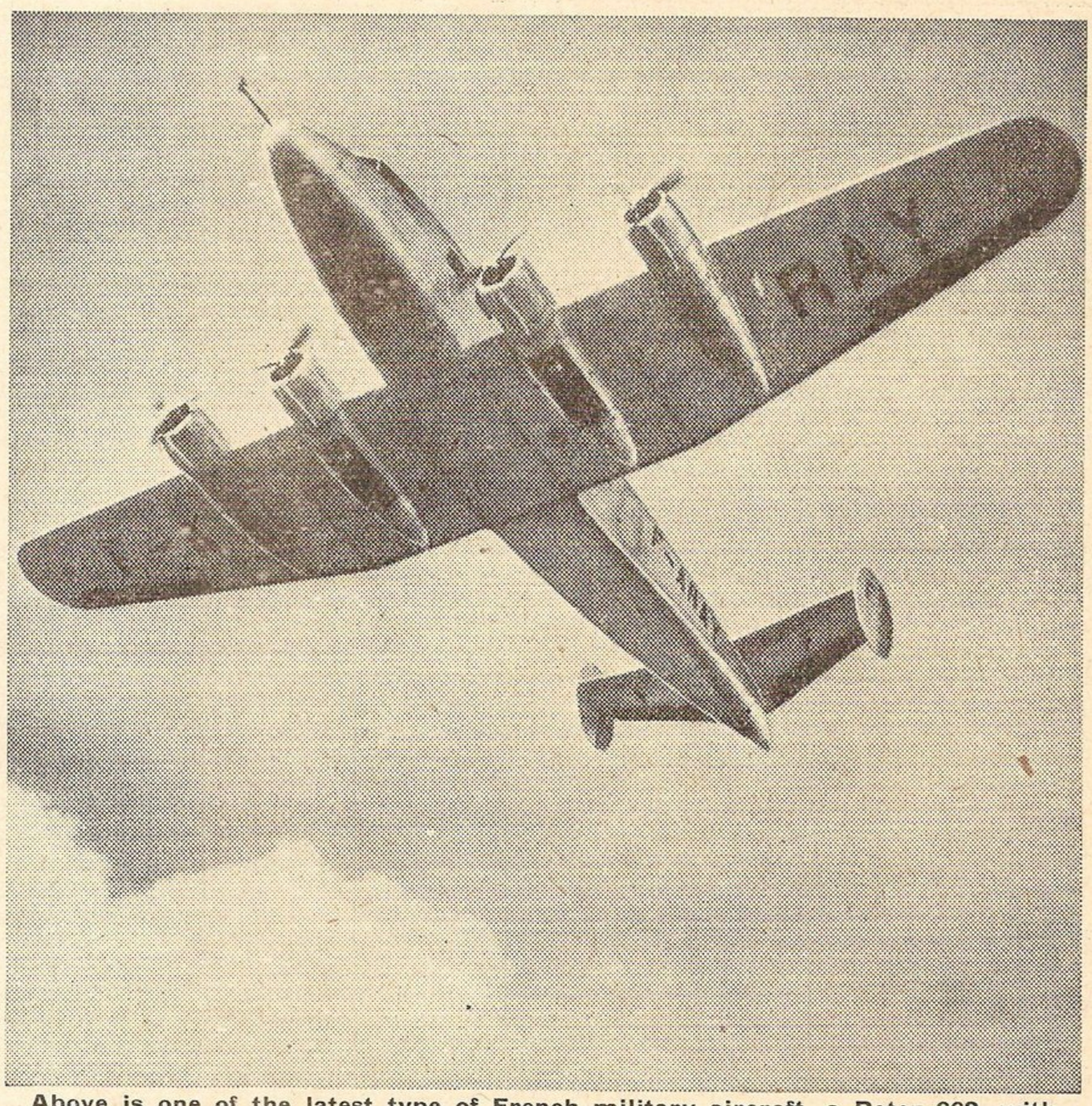
"Many of the passengers were injured," went on the statement, "some seriously. A Russian Jewish couple, starting a new life in the United States, saw their two young sons drown when the boat capsized at the stern. . . .

"While the boats manœuvred to come alongside a great school of whales plunged around them. Many women rowed along with the men 8–10 hours—many with clothing torn off, black with grease, barefooted, penniless, but answering with a smile after a night of horror without precedent."

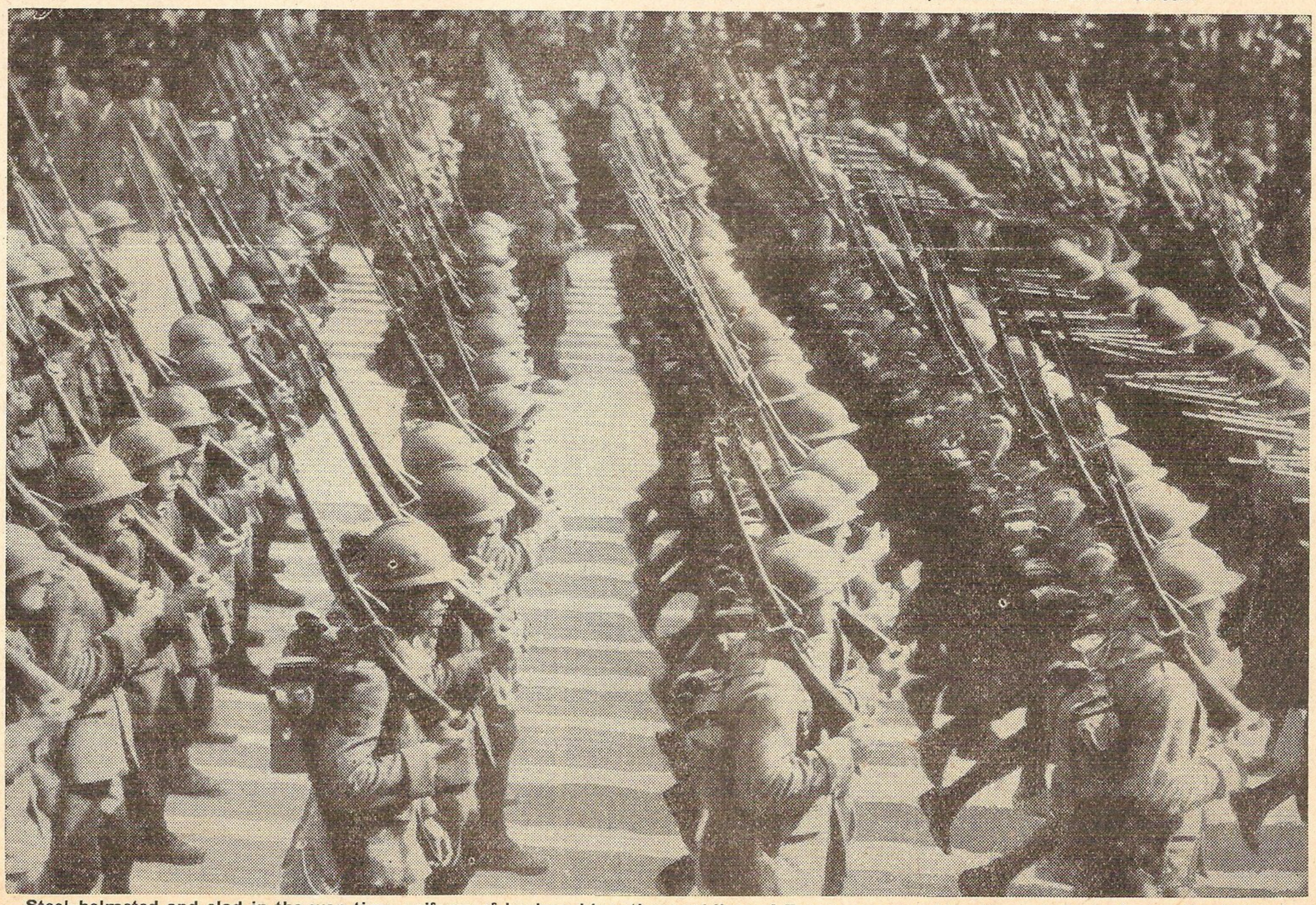


The first victim of the German submarines in the war, T.S.S. Athenia was owned by Donaldson Atlantic Line, Ltd., of Glasgow, and was of 13,581 tons. She was built by Fairfields, of Glasgow, in 1923, and had recently been reconditioned and reconstructed on a large scale. She plied between Glasgow and Montreal.

France Takes Up The Challenge



Above is one of the latest type of French military aircraft, a Potez 662, with which France meets Germany's challenge in the air. Left is a French light tank advancing under the protection of a smoke screen.



Steel-helmeted and clad in the war-time uniform of horizon blue, these soldiers of France are marching through Paris during the 14th of July celebrations this year. The peace-time establishment of the French Army in 1938 was 676,000, but when, first, the manning of the Maginot Line, and then general mobilization was ordered, that figure was multiplied many times.

Photos, Planet News

War Strengths of the Allies and European Neutrals

ARMY = 100,000 men	NAVY = 50,000 tons	AIR FORCE = 500 planes
GREAT BRITAIN Men Mobilized, 1,000,000. Standing Army, 400,000 (including Militia) *Population, 47,000,000.* *Max. Potential Man-Power, 13,000,000 (incl. Empire).*	Tonnage, 2,250,000.	1st Line, 3,500. Reserve, 3,000.
FRANCE Men Mobilized, 2,000,000. Standing Army. 750,000.	Tonnage, 800,000. *Population, 42,000,000.* *Max. Potential Man-Power, 12,000,000 (incl. Colonies).*	1st Line, 3,000. Reserve, 2,000.
POLAND Men Mobilized, 2,800,000. Standing Army, 350,000.	Naval forces consist of 4 destroyers, 3 submarines, 6 river monitors and 12 miscellaneous vessels. *Population, 34,500,000.* *Max. Potential Man-Power, 6,000,000.*	Planes, 1,500.
TURKEY Standing Army, 200,000.	Tonnage, 80,000. *Population, 16,000,000.* *Max. Potential Man-Power, 3,000,000.*	Planes, 500.
RUMANIA Men Mobilized, 500,000. Standing Army, 200,000.	*Population, 19,500,000.* *Max. Potential Man-Power, 3,000,000.*	Planes, 600.
HUNGARY Standing Army, 35,000. Men Mobilized, 200,000.	*Population, 10,000,000.* *Max. Potential Man-Power, 1,200,000.*	

The picture diagrams given in the charts on these two pages show at a glance the comparative fighting strengths by land, sea and air of the countries illustrated. Each complete figure represents 100,000 men, each ship 50,000 tons and each aeroplane 500 'planes.

Germany, Italy, Soviet Russia and the U.S.A.

ARMY = 100,000 men	NAVY = 50,000 tons	AIR FORCE = 500 planes
GERMANY Men Mobilized. 2,500,000. Standing Army, 1,000,000.	Tonnage, 500,000. *Population, 92,000,000. (Greater Germany)* *Max. Potential Man-Power, 16,000,000.*	1st Line, 3,000—4,000. Reserve, 6,000.
ITALY Men Mobilized, 1,500,000. Standing Army, 600,000.	Tonnage, 670,000. *Population, 43,500,000.* *Max. Potential Man-Power, 8,000,000.*	1st Line, 3,500. Reserve, 1,500.
RUSSIA Standing Army, 2,500,000.	Tonnage, 350,000. *Population 170,000,000.* *Max. Potential Man-Power, 30,000,000.*	1st Line, 3,000—4,000. Reserve, 3,000.
UNITED STATES Standing Army, 180,000. *Population 130,000,000.* *Max. Potential Man-Power, 20,000,000.*	Tonnage, 1,800,000.	Planes, 4,000

Top, we see the strength of the German Reich (Greater Germany). Next, her associated (but neutral) Axis power, Italy. Below are Soviet Russia and the U.S.A. Exact figures of the fighting forces are not available, but careful calculations provide serviceable comparisons.

BRITAIN'S ROYAL NAVY—The Floating Bu

"THE royal navy of England," wrote Sir William Blackstone, "has ever been its greatest defence and ornament; it is its ancient and natural strength; the floating bulwark of the island." The statement made with such careful precision in the spacious days of George III might be repeated without a change in phrase or word today when George VI is king. Still the Royal Navy is the "floating bulwark" of Britain and Britain's friends.

What is the world's most formidable fleet—the Imperial British Navy—is depicted in most striking fashion in this panorama specially drawn for "The Daily Telegraph" by Dr. Oscar Parkes, the naval artist, and reproduced here through the courtesy of that newspaper. Most of the vessels depicted have already taken their place in the fighting line on the seven seas, and the remainder are approaching completion.

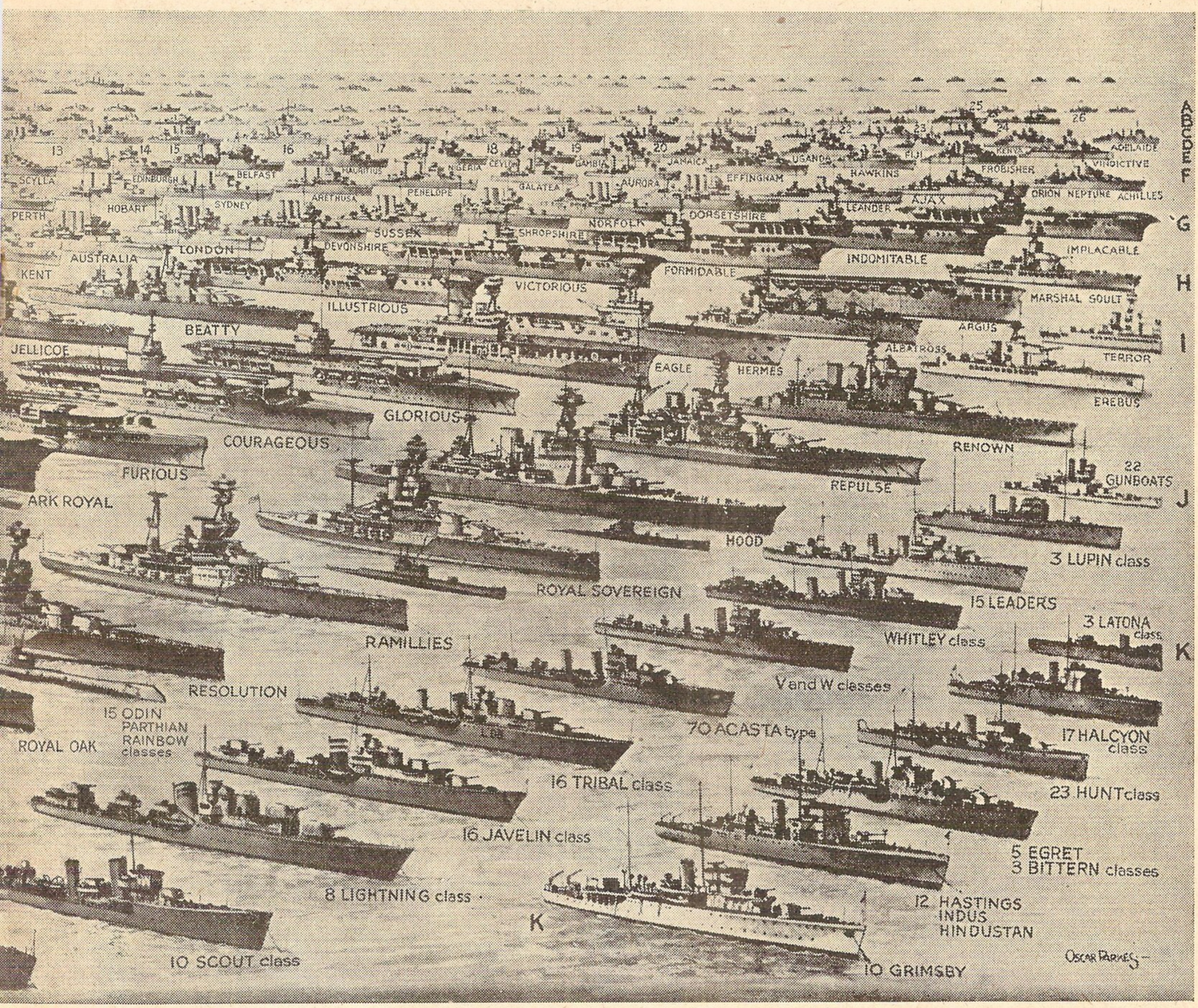
It should be noted that the illustration does not include any vessels of the 1939 construction programme, which comprises two 40,000-ton battleships of the Lion class, four 8,000-ton cruisers of the Fiji class, one large aircraft-carrier, sixteen destroyers, four submarines, twenty-two escort vessels, and a number of auxiliary craft. Furthermore, it need hardly be said that it exhibits no details of any new ships which have not been published, and in some cases, such as the Lion class of battleships, the illustrations have no more than a token significance.

Proceeding now to a summary of the ships shown in the panorama, on the horizon are 171 destroyers; **Iron Duke,** Jellicoe's flagship at the battle of Jutland (shown in the middle above the top line of ships in the left-hand section of the drawing), and depot ships.

A—51 minesweepers and patrol vessels.
B—39 escort vessels and two netlayers, Guardian (25) and Protector (26).

Next (**C, D, E, F**) ride serried columns of cruisers ranging from a few survivors of the Great War, of 1914–1918 programme, to the very latest types, e.g. the 10,000-ton Belfast

ılwark and Sure Shield of Our Land and Race



and Edinburgh, the 9,100-ton Southampton class, the 8,000-ton Fijis (which, despite very moderate size, mount twelve 6-in. guns), and the small but exceptionally powerful cruisers of the Dido group. On these cruisers largely depends the responsibility of ensuring the safety of our trade routes in war-time.

The cruisers in line **C** are—1, **Despatch**; 2, **Diomede**; 3, **Delhi**; 4, **Dunedin**; 5, **Durban**; 6, **Danae**; 7, **Dauntless**; 8, **Dragon**; 9, **Enterprise**; 10, **Emerald**; 11, **Adventure** (minelayer); 12, **Cardiff**; 13, **Calcutta**; 14, **Carlisle**; 15, **Capetown**; 16, **Curlew**; 17, **Coventry**; 18, **Cairo**; 19, **Curacoa**; 20, **Colombo**; 21, **Ceres**; 22, **Caradoc**; 23, **Calypso**; 24, **Caledon.**

In line **D** all the cruisers are building excepting Edinburgh, Belfast, and Adelaide.

The next line, **G,** comprises battleships and carriers (all building). Two new battleships of the Lion class, each of 40,000 tons (to be armed with 16-in. guns): these were recently laid down; the five almost equally powerful ships of the King George V type (35,000 tons, ten 14-in. guns), launched this year; and the huge 23,000 tons group of aircraft-carriers known as the Illustrious class—**Illustrious, Victorious, Formidable, Indomitable** and **Implacable**—each capable of taking to sea between sixty and seventy aircraft.

H—In this line are the five Queen Elizabeth battleships which have been practically rebuilt: **Warspite, Malaya, Barham, Valiant** and **Queen Elizabeth**; the aircraft-carriers **Ark Royal, Furious, Courageous, Glorious, Eagle,** and other smaller vessels of the same type.

I—Here will be observed the outlines of the battleships **Nelson** and **Rodney**, the five sister ships of the Royal Sovereign class: **Royal Sovereign, Royal Oak, Revenge, Resolution,** and **Ramillies**—with the battle-cruiser **Hood** (still the world's largest man-of-war, 42,100 tons), and her modernized consorts **Repulse** and **Renown,** and submarines and monitors.

J—Patrol vessels, destroyers, escort vessels and gunboats.
K—Escort vessels, minesweepers and minelayers.

The personnel of this mighty force reaches an establishment of about 135,000, a figure unmatched by any other navy in the world, and it may be said in every confidence that, though our ships are no longer "hearts of oak," still today, as in all the centuries of the past, "hearts of oak are our men."

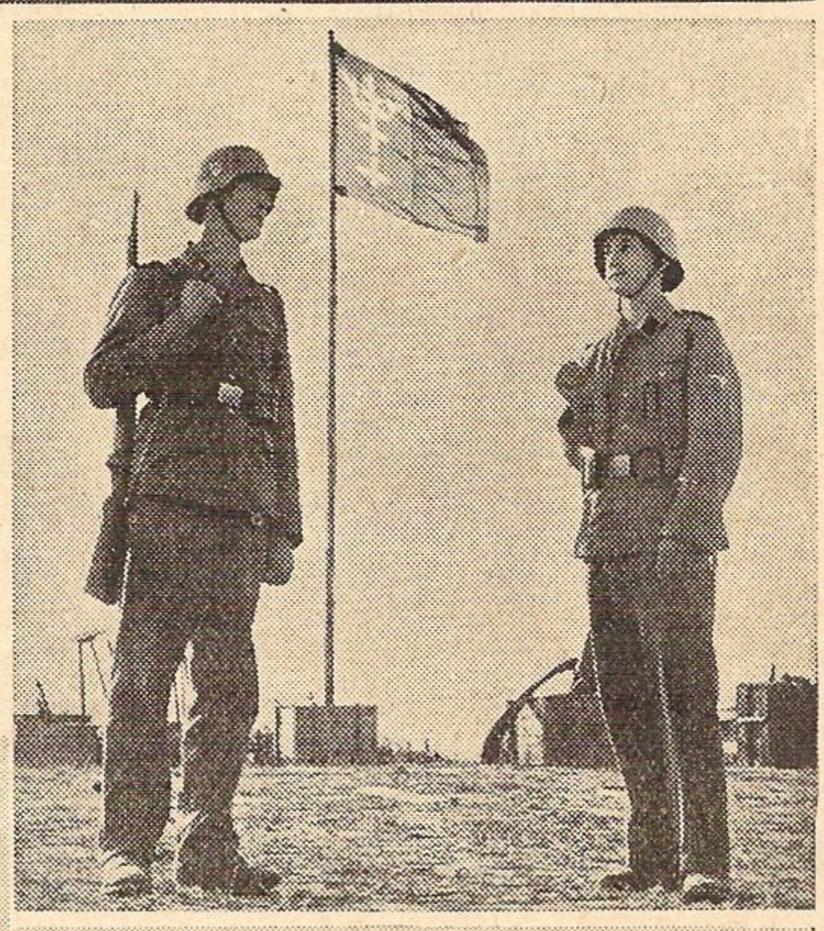
Drawing reproduced by permission of "The Daily Telegraph"

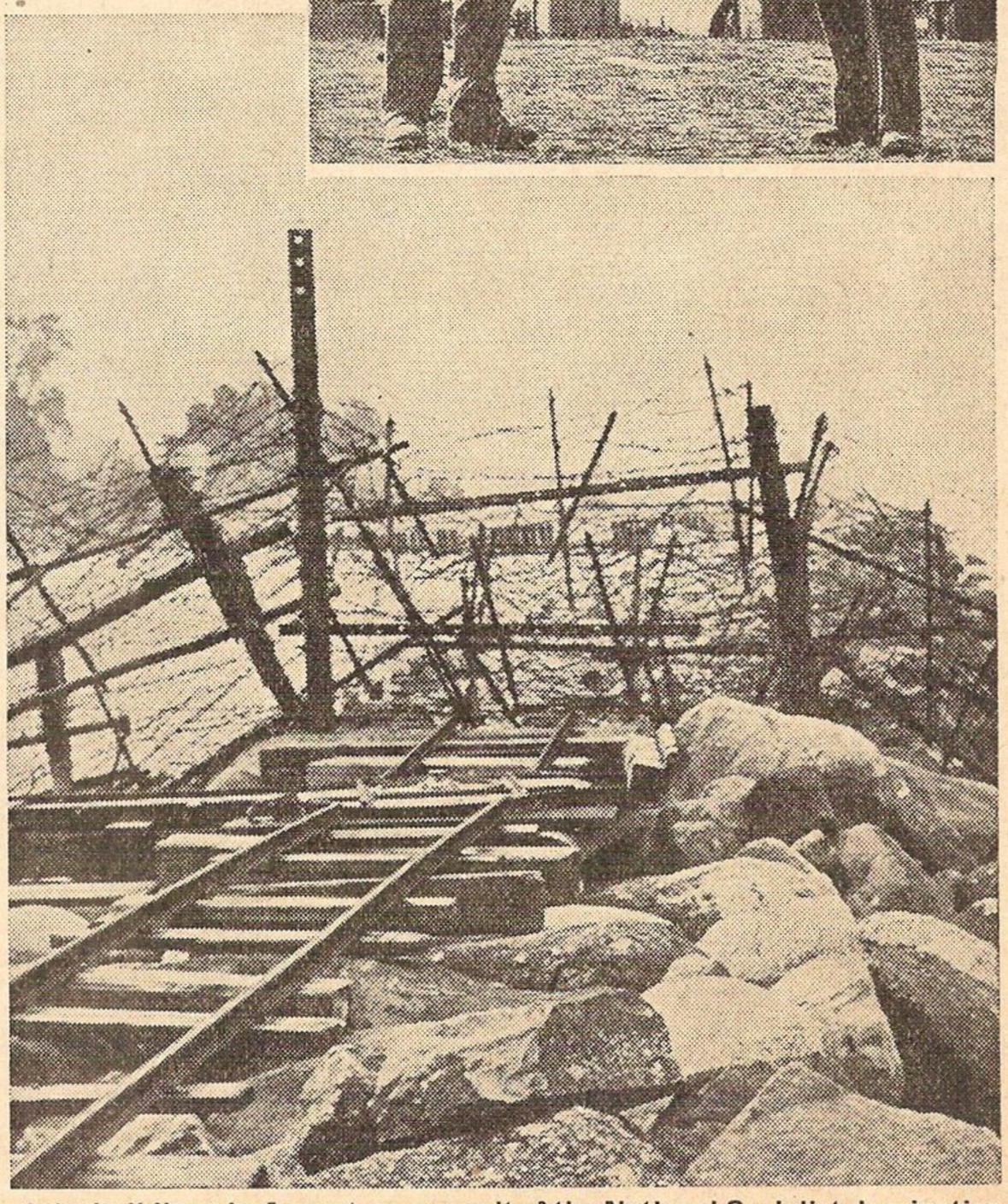
Danzig and the Men Who Betrayed It

Above is the scene at a sitting of the Senate of the Free City of Danzig, a body consisting of 12 members, the highest State authority, which was eventually usurped by the Nazi party. In this photograph are Herr Greiser, Dr. Grossman, and other Senators.

SITUATED at the mouth of the Vistula, great river of Eastern Europe, stands Danzig, the city which was the final objective in Hitler's campaign of aggression. For centuries it has been a centre of economic life. Danes, Pomeranians, Prussians, Brandenburgers and Teutonic Knights have held it in turn, but from the Middle Ages until the infamous partitions of Poland at the close of the 18th century, it was a Free City under Polish control. With truth did Frederick of Prussia declare that he who ruled in Danzig was more the king of Poland than the sovereign in Warsaw.

For a short time during the Napoleonic age it was a dukedom, but with the collapse of Napoleon's empire it was returned to Prussia. It was the capital of West Prussia until 1919. At Versailles the treaty-makers resolved that the ancient Free City centre should be re-established under the League of Nations.



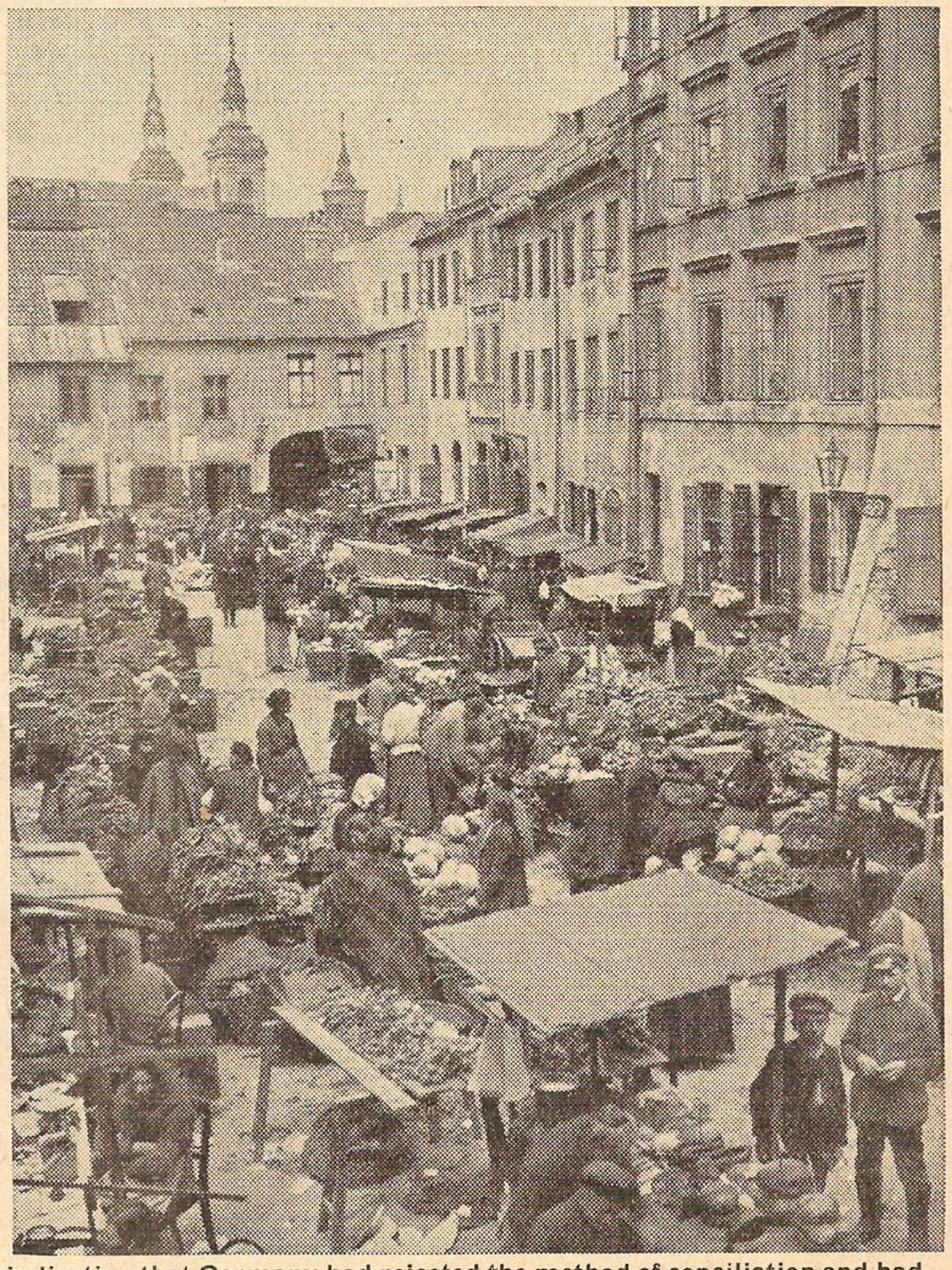


Above, left, is a main street in Danzig showing Nazi flags flying from most of the buildings in August, as a result of the National Socialist domination of the city. Centre, two men of the Danzig Heimwehr stand beneath the true flag of the "Free City," before its independence was destroyed. Below, right, is a portion of the defences of Westerplatte, near Danzig, which was so heroically defended by the Poles.

Photos, Keystone, Wide World

Warsaw: First Victim of the New Nazi Ruthlessness

Situated on the left bank of the Vistula, Poland's capital city boasts of many splendid buildings, relics of the country's past or creations of the bustling present. Above we have a view of the city as one approaches from Praga, the suburb on the opposite bank.



For most of the world the news of the bombing of Warsaw was the first indication that Germany had rejected the method of conciliation and had let loose the thunderbolt of war. These pictures show (left) one of the fine new buildings in the Napoleon Platz, and (right) a scene in the Ghetto.

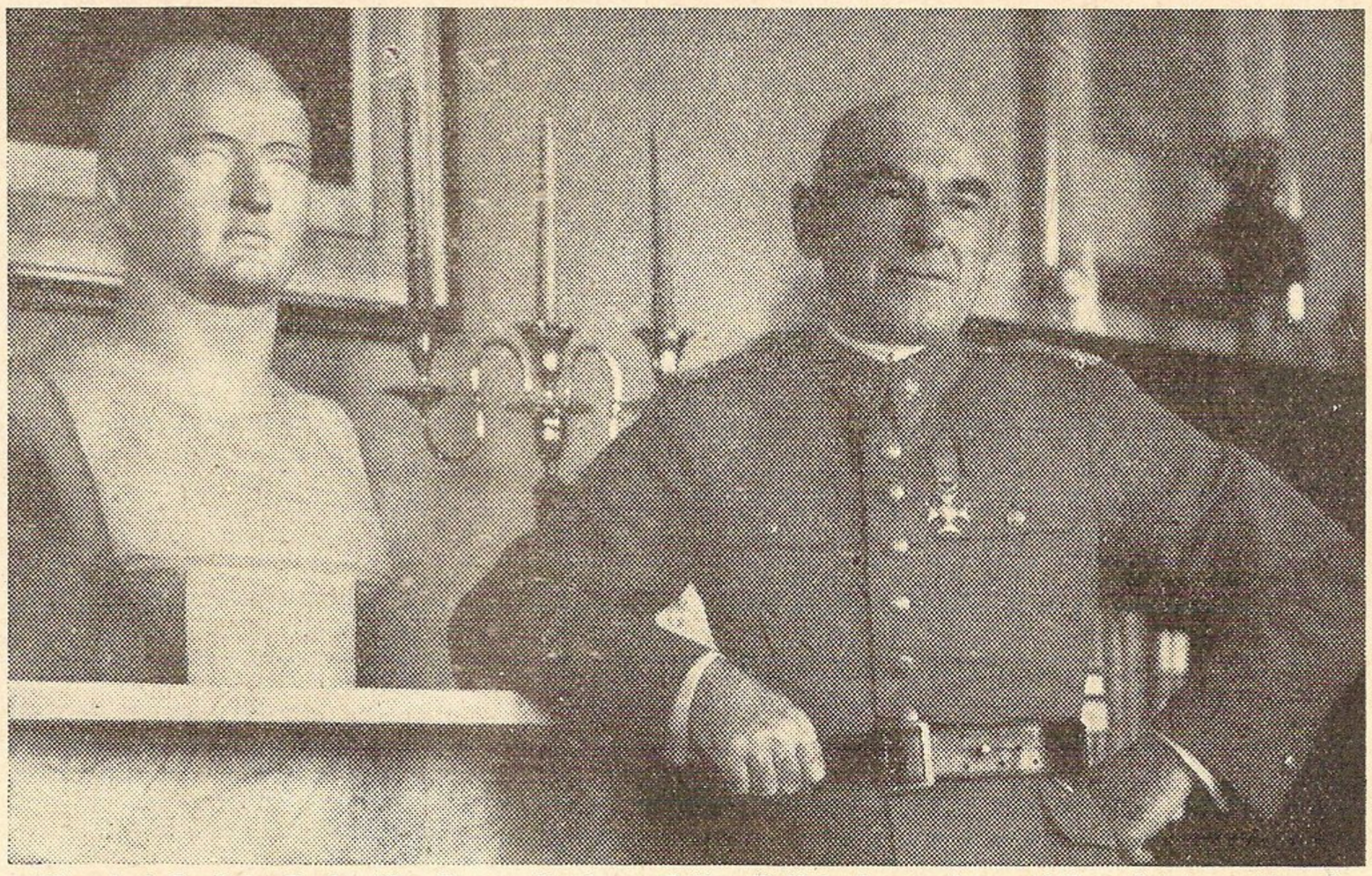
Photo, Wide World, Dorien Leigh & Wide World

Poland Resolute Against the German Might

IF you want a symbol of Poland in arms you will find it not in speeding aircraft, marching masses of infantry, rumbling tanks and mechanized artillery, but in a trooper of the national cavalry. Alert, swift-moving, ready for every eventuality, quick to seize every change in a changing situation—such is the man and the men on whom Poland depends in her hour of supreme crisis.

Poland's horsemen have ever been famous for their dash and gallantry, and their prowess is recorded in letters of gold in their country's history. Today, as always in the past, Poland's cavalry is the backbone of her army.

If it is thought strange that in this age of petrol and machinery a nation should rely for the mobility of its armed forces on the horse, we should take a look at the map. Physically speaking, indeed, Poland has no well-marked boundaries save in the south-west, where a range of mountains separates her from Slovakia.



Marshal Smigly Rydz, the Generalissimo of the Polish Army, is a soldier of international reputation to whose great abilities the efficiency and preparedness of the Army are due. He has been nominated by President Moscicki as his successor should the office become vacant before the end of the war.

Elsewhere her boundaries are drawn across a vast plain largely roadless, and marked in many a place by lakes, woods and great expanses of marshland. In the midst of such watery wastes mechanical fortresses, stiff with guns and heavy with armament, might well be worse than useless. Their speed would be cut down to a minimum, and the danger of bogging would confront them at every turn. How different, however, is the position of a cavalry force in such a region—a force which can take advantage of every little area of firm ground! Poland's cavalry, equipped with sword, lance and machine-guns, is said by some best qualified to know to be the best in Europe.

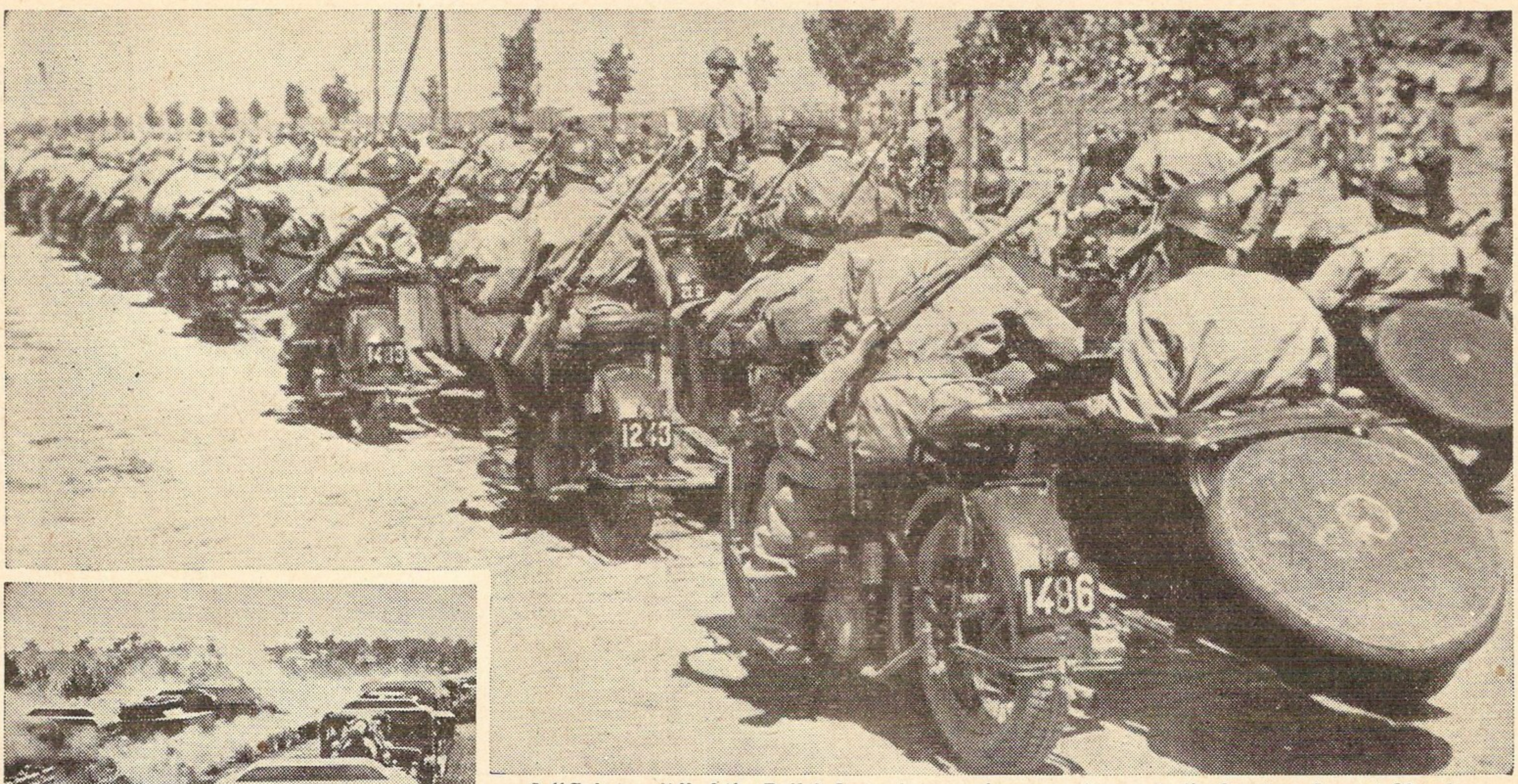
But Poland has not neglected her other arms. She has tanks of excellent quality and high performance, and her infantry—recruited from a race of hard-working, long-enduring peasants—can march 30 to 40 miles a day, and have a courage equal to none. In the air the excellence of her position is not so marked, but even so her air force has an estimated strength of 2,500 planes, and in particular the Polish standard bomber can carry $2\frac{1}{2}$ tons at a top speed of over 300 miles per hour.

The Polish army actually numbers just over a quarter of a million men, but there are three million trained reserves. Furthermore, owing to the extraordinary youthfulness of the Polish population as a whole, the country could ultimately mobilize an army of six million men of military age.

Although Poland is presumed to possess nothing in the nature of a Maginot or Siegfried Line, practically all her big towns are armed camps or the centres of fortified systems.

Poland mobilized with a complete calmness that was the surest sign of the stern determination of every Pole to fight and win. In the top photograph young Poles are reading the proclamation that calls them to the colours, while in the lower one a young Polish woman slips an "emergency ration" into her husband's pocket as he goes off to the front.

Photos, Keystone, and Planet News



A "flying unit" of the Polish Army is seen above moving up to the front on August 28, when Hitler had already begun to provoke those "frontier incidents" which disclosed his real intentions towards the Polish State.

Forts and armaments and huge resources in man power are not everything, however. There must in addition be that indefinable something that we very inadequately suggest when we use the word *morale*. Where that something resides is difficult to define, but at least it may be said to be personified in the country's leaders—in those men who have the control of the Republic. Poland is particularly fortunate in that her leaders at the present hour of testing are all men who have been through the fires of adversity and know from actual experience what war means, how it should be carried on, and how victory may be won. Pilsudski, the father of the Republic, is dead, but his mantle has fallen upon his able lieutenant, Marshal Smigly Rydz, who today, as Inspector-General of the forces, is in effect the supreme controller of Poland's destinies in peace and war. Surrounding him are many men of great ability and courage.

Surveying, then, the armed forces with which Poland is meeting the furious menace from beyond her borders, remembering her past history of vicissitudes crowned by ultimate triumph, and realizing the inspiration afforded by tried and trusted leaders, we may well believe that she may face the brutal challenge to her existence with the confidence born of material strength and spiritual resolve.

The two photographs above show Poland's preparedness. In that in the middle of the page heavy mechanized artillery is moving into action. Immediately above is a magnificent array of Polish cavalry. The Poles are great horsemen and Poland is a great horse-breeding country. Early in the war the Polish cavalry achieved conspicuous success against the invaders of their country. Though cavalry is still an important part of the Polish Army, it is retained only because of special conditions, and mechanization has been carried out in every branch where it is advantageous.

Photos, Wide World, Associated Press and Planet News

ODD FACTS ABOUT THE WAR

Grey Hairs for the Firing Line

"I watched columns of older reservists march to the trains that were to carry them to points near the Polish border. There was no flag waving, no military bands. The men shambled along dejectedly. Bald heads were seen all along the line, and no one in the ranks was without greying hair. One man in five seemed to have a snow-white head."

(Berlin Correspondent in *News Chronicle*, August 28.)

Death Penalty Threat

The German broadcasting stations announced as soon as war began that it was a punishable offence to listen-in to French broadcasting stations.

Anyone doing so, or passing on information picked up from French broadcasts, was liable to a death penalty, it was announced.

German Radio Sets Confiscated

All radio sets in Germany have been banned and will be confiscated, with the exception of the small "people's sets," which can only get local stations.

Heil Frieden!

There were remarkable scenes at Liverpool Street Station on August 26 when four trains carrying nearly 800 people left for the Continent. Altogether, between 1,500 and 1,800 foreigners left during the day. Most of them were Germans who had been advised by their Embassy to leave.

The one topic of conversation as the trains stood waiting in the platforms was the common hope for peace. There were no cries of "Heil Hitler" as the train drew out. Instead, there were calls of "Heil Frieden"—hail peace.

Ration Cards in Germany

Rationing of many foodstuffs, as well as of textiles and boots and shoes, was introduced by decree on August 27, and cards have been distributed throughout Germany.

Food will be distributed in the following quantities per head each week: Meat, 25 oz.; butter, margarine or oil, 15 oz.; sugar, 10 oz.; jam, 4 oz.; coffee or coffee substitute, 2 oz.; tea substitute, ¾ oz.; milk, 2½ pints; and soap, 1 oz.

Eggs, potatoes and bread, which are on the cards, are not strictly controlled for the moment. Cocoa is also free.

Women Rush to Join Up

A one-way traffic system had to be put into operation in the corridors at the Women's Voluntary Service headquarters in S.W. London because of the rush of the women to join up.

Woes of the Hausfrau

"The German woman wears clothes made of 'spun-wood,' that is to say, artificial wool made from wood pulp. A skirt looked nice enough until you had sat on it for an hour or two, but then there were creases like railway lines. And woe betide a 'spun-wood' suit that got caught in the rain! Sheets are a problem in Germany today; wash them gently and all is well, but boil them—and they become soup! The girls in the shops warn you not to iron these sheets and dresses with an over-hot iron, and on no account to boil them."

(An Englishwoman resident in Berlin—in *Daily Mail*, August 29, 1939.)

Don't Forget the Poor Majorities!

It has become a widespread habit in post-War Europe to give more attention to minorities than to the poor old majorities, which, after all, are also there. Of the 35,000,000 of Poland, 25,000,000 are the purely Polish majority. Of the remainder, most are Jews and Ukrainians, who hate the Nazi menace as least as much as the Poles themselves.

(A. T. Lutoslawski, in *Daily Mail*, Aug. 23.)

Pilsudski said—

To be vanquished and not surrender is victory.

He Wants to Understand Us!

"The Chancellor has courageously put aside the encirclement machinery and has once more revealed the wider background which culminates in the untiring endeavour for a lasting Anglo-German understanding."

(*Hamburger Fremdenblatt.*)

Poland, Nation of Youth

Poland has now a population of 35,000,000, an increase of 8½ million (nearly half a million a year) since the Great War. Of European countries this is by far the highest birth-rate. As a consequence Poland has a very low average age.

India's Loyalty

Leading Indian Princes have offered to place at the disposal of the King-Emperor all the resources of their States.

The Maharaja of Bikaner stated:

"It can safely be predicted that the Princes of India will rally like one man round their beloved King-Emperor and stand solid behind the Empire should war unfortunately break out."

The Viceroy, the Marquess of Linlithgow, has received from the rulers of States in all parts of India assurances of loyalty in the event of war.

The first ruler to place his troops and resources unreservedly at the disposal of the King-Emperor was the wealthy Nizam of Hyderabad, whose State is as large as Italy. Others who followed included the Maharajas of Travancore, Kashmir, Bikaner, Kapurthala and Jind.

The Nawab of Rampur, who recalls the example of his forefathers at the time of the Indian Mutiny and the Great War, proudly offers his personal services as a soldier.

Wish Fulfilment?

A loose-leaf atlas is widely advertised in Germany. Purchasers are given coupons which entitle them to free new maps of greater Germany when the boundaries are altered. (*Sunday Express.*)

Mind the Pitch!

One of the nicest of A.R.P. stories has cropped up. It illustrates this England, this British way of doing things.

In a certain suburb, an A.R.P. expert with wide experience of trench and bomb shelter systems noticed some young men digging a straight trench alongside some playing fields. It was to be a refuge in case of sudden air raids.

My friend pointed out that the blast of a bomb at either end of the trench would immediately kill all occupants. He told them that the best way to construct such a trench would be to use the traverse or gridiron system. One of the diggers thought for a moment, then replied:

"But, old boy, that would spoil the football pitch!" (*Star.*)

Nazi Cold-bloodedness

"It is the crowded quarters which will suffer the most from bombing. Those quarters, however, are inhabited by those who have not succeeded in life—the refuse of the community in fact, which would be well rid of them. Besides, the explosions of the bombs will inevitably cause many cases of madness. The person whose nervous system is deficient will not be able to survive the shock. In this way, bombing will help us to discover the neurasthenics in our community and to remove them from social life."

Archiv der Gesellschaft für Rassenbiologie, Berlin (Race-biology laboratory).

(*News Review*, August 18, 1938.)

Japan is Shocked

Japan is not inclined to arraign or condemn Germany, who is dead to moral sense and who justifies any Machiavellian makeshift for safeguarding her national existence.

It would be the height of folly for Japan to attempt to blame such a country for a breach of faith. (*Chugai Shogyo Shimpo*)

Man Goes Back to the Melting Pot

"By some power deeply seated in our nature and over which we seem to be powerless, we, after two centuries of enlightenment, have been thrust back, with all our load of knowledge and equipment upon us, into a dark age which will require deep thinking, resolute action, endurance and courage if the world is to find a fortunate exodus from the Egypt in which it now is."

(Sir Arthur Keith in *Sunday Times*, Aug. 27.)

Plenty of "Living Space" in Prussia!

Herr Koch, Nazi district leader in East Prussia, has declared that his province, whose present population is 2,500,000, needs an increase of 2,000,000 inhabitants. This, in spite of the fact that, since 1933, several hundred thousand workers have been brought in to staff the 157 new factories established during the same period.

Germans Mustn't Get Dirty!

The new German rationing regulations issued on August 29 extend to many household commodities. For instance, one stick of shaving soap must last five months, while all toilet soap has to be reserved for infants under two and for those in unavoidably dirty occupations. The general public is warned to avoid getting dirty unnecessarily.

That Sinking Feeling

"The Germans have always known that they are expert in violence but amateurs in psychology. This knowledge tempts them to bluff and bluster in hope of assuaging the pangs of self-distrust. Thus, even while they rejoice at Herr von Ribbentrop's diplomatic victory, they will retain an uneasy feeling inside."

(Harold Nicolson, M.P., in *The Times*, August 30.)

Chamberlain Loquitur

I labour for peace, but when I speak unto them thereof, they make them ready for battle—(Psalm 120).

Britain's Agriculture

As far as agriculture is concerned, Great Britain is in a vastly better position than she was in 1914. We have about a million more cattle, 1,250,000 more sheep, 1,300,000 more pigs, and many millions more poultry than we had then.

Moreover, by skilful breeding and feeding, the production per animal has been greatly increased, cows, for example, yielding at least 50 per cent more milk than in 1914.

Our 4,000 acres of sugar beet in 1914 has grown to 345,000 acres. 18 sugar beet factories last season produced nearly 6 million cwt. of sugar.

The number of farm horses has decreased, but their place has been taken by about 50,000 land tractors and hundreds of thousands of lorries.

Spain Keeps Out

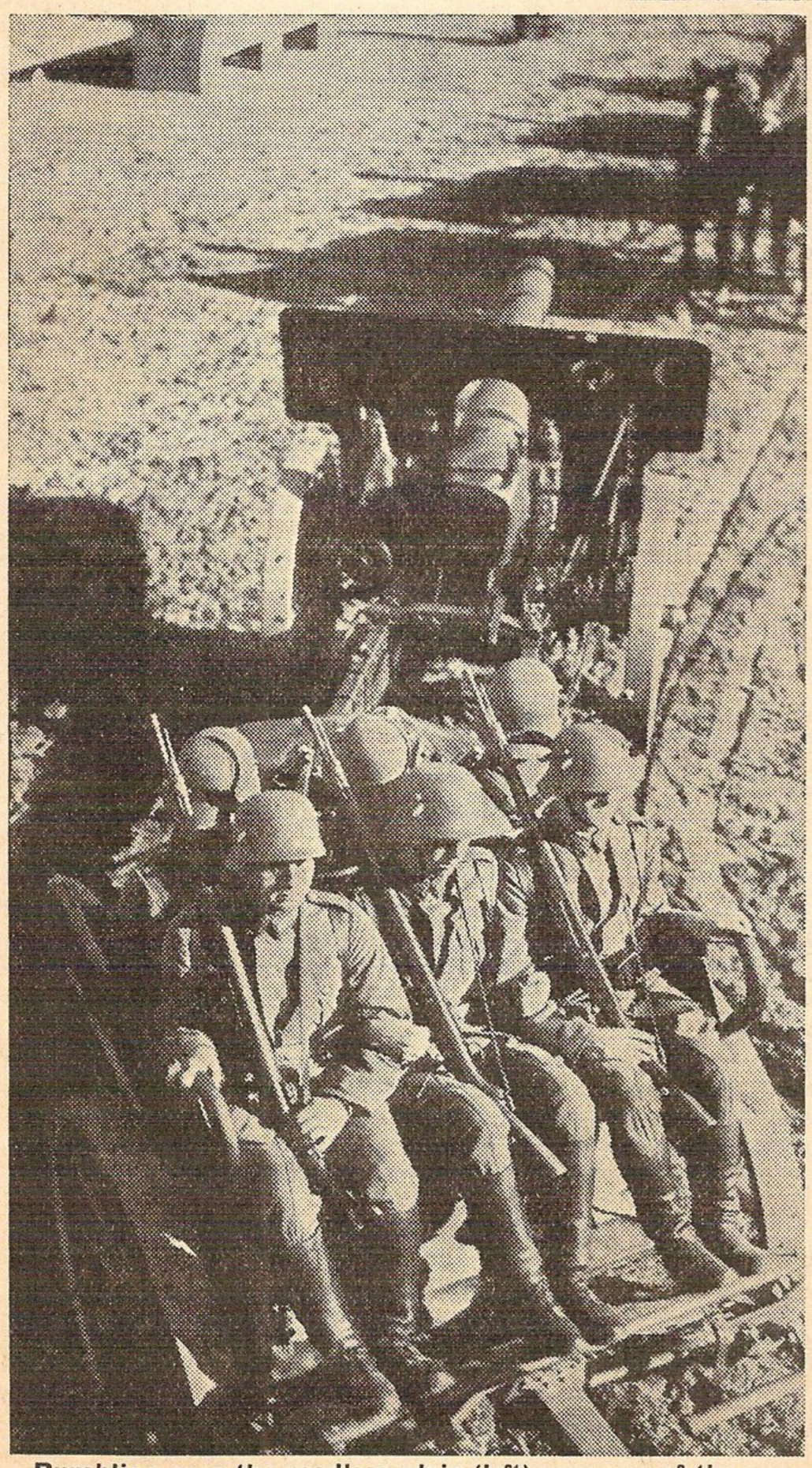
Italian hopes that Spain might serve her as a base, or even as an ally, have foundered. Germany's cynical embrace of the Bolsheviks, who organized and largely reinforced the Spanish Revolution, has so shocked the new Nationalist Government of Spain that its sentiments towards both its recent allies have become "A plague on both your houses."—

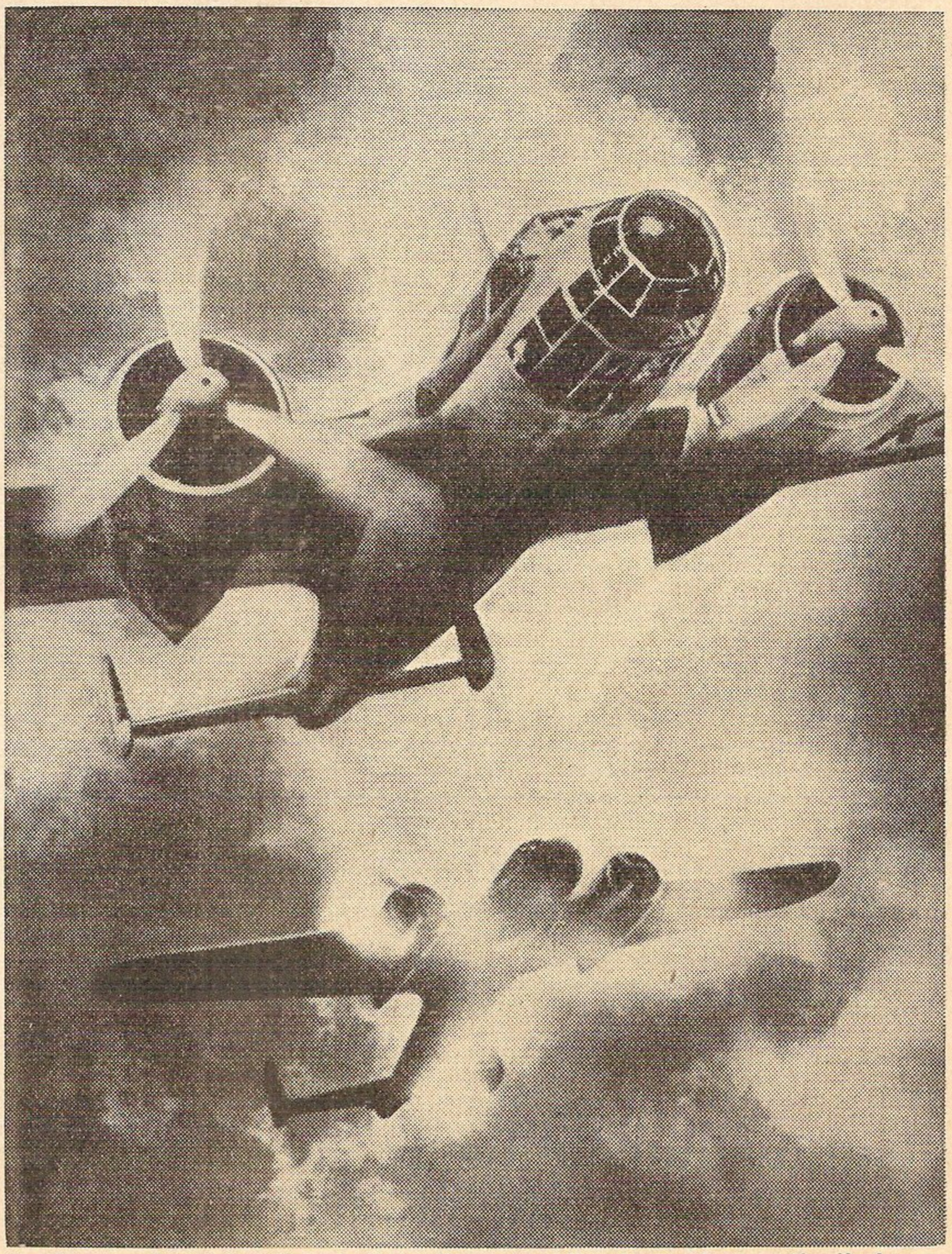
(*Daily Mail.*)

The Armed Forces of Germany Advance

This gas-masked German rifleman has been dropped from a 'plane by parachute. Many such men were landed behind the lines in the invasion of Poland.

In the army of Nazi Germany as in that of the Kaiser the infantry march the goose-step way.





Rumbling over the roadless plain (left) goes one of the guns of a German heavy howitzer battery, its crew riding in comfort on the limber. In the picture on the right we see the new German bombing 'planes—the twin-engined all-metal Dornier DO.17, well named the "flying pencil." Note the bomb-aimer's compartment in the floor of the nose.

Photos, Camera Talks and Associated Press

HITLER'S SIX-YEAR CAMPAIGN OF LIES

No British statesman knows Hitler so well as Mr. Chamberlain, and we have it on his authority that Hitler's "word is, for us, not worth the paper it is written on." Below are some of the most outstanding instances of the Fuehrer's breaches of faith.

Amongst the last pictures to leave Germany before the war is this, Hitler addressing the Reichstag in the Kroll Opera House, Berlin.
Wide World

1933

May 17. In a Speech to the Reichstag, Hitler said :

Germany will tread no other path than that laid down by the treaties. The German Government will discuss all political and economic questions only within the framework and through the treaties. The German people have no thought of invading any country. **On October 14 Germany left the League and the Disarmament Conference.**

On March 10, 1935, General Goering made known the existence of a German Air Force, the constitution of which had been forbidden by the Peace Treaty.

On March 16, 1935, Hitler decreed Conscription in Germany, also forbidden by the Peace Treaty.

1934

Jan. 30. From Hitler's Speech in the Reichstag :

After this question (the Saar) has been settled the German Government is ready to accept not only the letter but also the spirit of the Locarno Pact. **In March, 1936, Germany denounced the Locarno Pact by reoccupying the demilitarized zone of the Rhineland.**

1935

May 21. In a Speech to the Reichstag, Hitler declared :

The German Government has broken away from the discriminatory articles of the Treaty, but it herewith solemnly declares that these measures relate exclusively to the points which involve moral and material discrimination against her people. It will therefore respect unconditionally the articles concerning the mutual relations of nations in other respects, **including the territorial provisions,** and will bring about the revisions inevitable in the course of time **only by the method of peaceful understandings.**

1936

Jan. 30. In a Speech at Berlin, Hitler said :

Germany will be a lover of peace such as only a peace-loving nation can be.

March 7 :

Germany denounced the Treaty of Locarno and reoccupied the demilitarized Rhineland zone.

On the same day, Hitler declared to the Reichstag :

Germany will never break the peace of Europe. After three years I can regard the struggle for German equality as concluded today. We have no territorial demands to make in Europe.

We are aware, above all, that all the causes of tension which arise as a result either of faulty territorial provisions or of a disproportion between the size of populations and their living space **cannot be solved by means of war in Europe.** At the same time we hope that human wisdom will help to mitigate the painful effects of these conditions and to remove causes of tension **by way of gradual evolutionary development in peaceful collaboration.**

1937

Jan. 30. In a Speech to the Reichstag, Hitler declared :

The period of so-called surprises is now over . . . **PEACE IS OUR DEAREST TREASURE.** . . . As an equal state Germany is conscious of its European task to co-operate loyally in removing the problems which affect us and other nations.

1938

In the agreement reached with Dr. Schuschnigg at Berchtesgaden on Feb. 12, Hitler reaffirmed his recognition of Austrian sovereignty, already expressed in the Austro-German Agreement of July, 1936.

On March 11, Germany annexed Austria.

The disparity between the declarations of May 21, 1935, and the events of March 11, 1938, prompted M. Mastny, the Czecho-Slovak Minister in Berlin, to convey to Field-Marshal Goering on the same evening the apprehensions of the Czecho-Slovak Government. Field-Marshal Goering immediately assured him that Germany had no hostile intentions against Czecho-Slovakia. "I give you my word of honour," he said, "and I can add that we wish only for better relations."

On March 12 Baron von Neurath informed M. Mastny officially in the name of the Reich Chancellor that Germany had no hostile intentions towards Czecho-Slovakia. He alluded to the interest taken by Germany in the Sudeten Germans, but at the same time expressed the hope that "this domestic question of the Czecho-Slovak State" might be satisfactorily settled.

Baron von Neurath also referred to the Treaty of Arbitration concluded in 1925 between Germany and Czecho-Slovakia as part of the Locarno Pacts. This treaty had been specifically recognized as still valid by the Reich after the Locarno Pacts were disavowed by Herr Hitler. An attempt was later made by the Czecho-Slovak Government to invoke it, but it was then denied in Germany that it was still binding.

On March 13 M. Mastny received a fifth assurance from Field-Marshal Goering that Germany had no hostile intentions against Czecho-Slovakia. With the consent of the German Government these assurances were communicated by Mr. Chamberlain to the House of Commons on March 14.

On Sept. 24 Germany sent her seven-day ultimatum to Czecho-Slovakia, which led to the Munich Conference of Sept. 29/30.

Sept. 26. Speaking in Berlin, Hitler said :

And now the last problem which must be solved confronts us. It [i.e. the claim for the Sudeten lands] is the last territorial claim that I have to make in Europe, but it is one I will not renounce . . . I assured Mr. Chamberlain that after this there would be no more international problems. I promised afterwards that if Herr Benes would settle peacefully his problems with the other minorities, I would even guarantee the new Czech State. We do not want any Czechs. Our demand for the Sudetens is, however, irrevocable.

Oct. 9. Speaking at Saarbrücken, Hitler said :

Now as a strong State we can be ready at any time to pursue a policy of understanding with surrounding States. We can do this because we want nothing from them. We have no wishes, no claims. We want peace.

1939

Jan. 30. Speaking in the Reichstag, Hitler said :

Only the warmongers think there will be a war. I think there will be a long period of peace.

On March 15 Bohemia and Moravia were declared German protectorates, after a threat that otherwise Prague would be mercilessly bombed.

On March 23 it was announced that Memel had returned to Germany.

After Czecho-Slovakia and Memelland came the turn of Poland. After the signing of a non-aggression pact with Poland in January, 1934, Hitler had said:

I sincerely hope that our new understanding will mean that **Germany and Poland have definitely abandoned all idea of a resort to arms,** not for ten years only, but for ever . . .

Furthermore, in May 1935, he declared :

Germany has reached a non-aggression pact with Poland which she will keep blindly, and which she hopes will be prolonged constantly, and will lead to more and more friendly relations . . . **Germany has nothing to gain by a European war. We want peace . . .**

Again on February 22, 1938, in a speech to the Reichstag, he stated :

We are sincerely satisfied about the friendly rapprochement which has taken place in recent years between ourselves and Poland . . . Since the League has ceased its disturbing interference in Danzig, this most critical spot for the peace of Europe has lost its danger. Poland respects German claims on Danzig, and the Free City and Germany respect Polish rights.

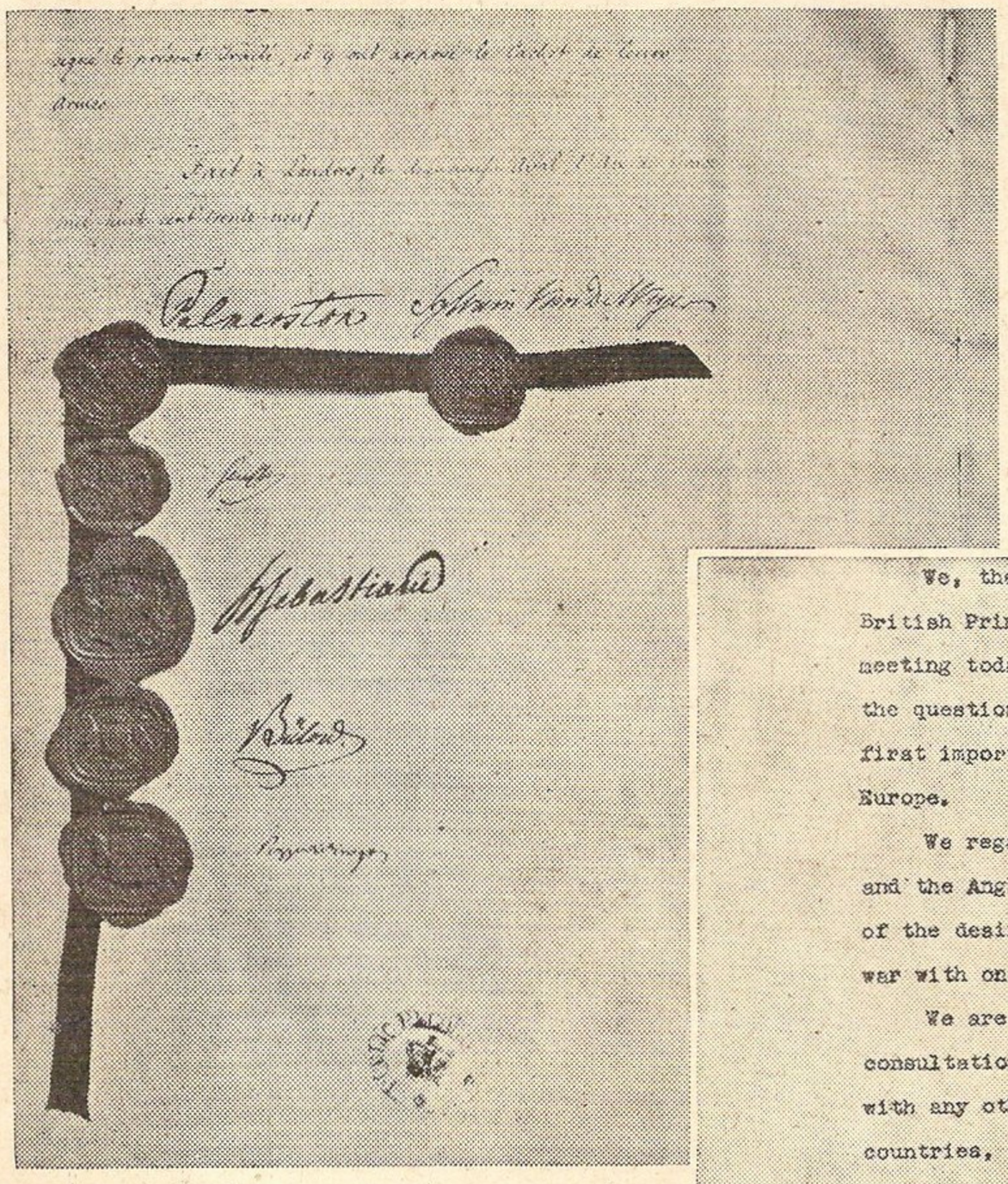
Nevertheless, on Sept. 1, 1939, Danzig was declared part of the German Reich and POLAND WAS INVADED BY GERMANY.

THE TWO 'SCRAPS OF PAPER'

One 'scrap of paper' brought Britain into the last war—a written engagement that Germany refused to believe that Britain would keep. Another, signed only in September, 1938, was the 'No More War' Anglo-German declaration, now thrown on to the scrap-heap of false hopes and broken promises.

On the evening of August 4, 1914, Germany's Chancellor and Britain's Ambassador in Berlin met at the Chancellery to discuss the situation which had arisen as the result of German violation of Belgian territory. German troops had crossed the frontier that very morning; Britain, true to her pledged word, had delivered what was in effect an ultimatum making it plain to the Imperial Government that unless they gave an assurance by 12 o'clock that night that they would proceed no farther with their violation of the Belgian frontier and stop the advance of their invading army, she would be forced to take such steps as her engagements required.

Herr von Bethmann Hollweg was agitated, even distraught. Sir Edward Goschen, too, was excited. Both felt themselves to be in the grip of a fast-moving fate. As soon as Goschen entered



the Chancellery, the German Chancellor began a harangue which lasted for some twenty minutes. He said "that the step taken by the British Government was terrible; just for a word, a mere word—'neutrality,' a word which in war-time had so often been disregarded—just for *a scrap of paper* Great Britain was going to make war on a kindred nation who desired nothing better than to be friends with her."

For years, he continued, he had directed his policy towards a better understanding between Germany and Britain, and now everything "had tumbled down like a house of cards."

Sir Edward Goschen retorted that if the Chancellor wished him to understand that for strategical reasons it was a matter of life and death to Germany to advance through Belgium and so violate the latter's neutrality, so it was a matter of life and death for the honour of Great Britain that she should keep her solemn engagement to do her utmost to defend Belgium's neutrality if attacked. That solemn compact simply had to be kept, or what confidence could anyone have in engagements given by Great Britain in the future?

When Belgium Was Violated

There was no need to say what that "solemn compact" was. Bethmann Hollweg, from his long experience as German Chancellor, could not but be well aware of the existence of the Treaty of April 19, 1839, which, establishing peace between Holland and Belgium, also declared Belgium's status as an independent and permanently neutral kingdom. To that Treaty were appended the signatures of the representatives of Great Britain, France, Prussia, Russia and Austria. By the very first article of the Treaty the five Powers guaranteed the neutrality of Belgium.

Signed and ratified in good faith, honourably maintained for three-quarters of a century, this was the pact which Bethmann Hollweg scornfully referred to as "a scrap of paper."

'No More War'

During the Crisis of 1938, the first act in the tragic drama of Czecho-Slovakia's downfall, Germany and Britain were once again within an ace of war, when for a space peace was saved. The Prime Minister came back from Munich, and as he issued from his 'plane at Heston on September 30 he waved a piece of paper to the cheering crowd that greeted him. This paper bore the words: "We are resolved that the method of consultation shall be the method adopted to deal with any other questions that may concern our two countries, and we are determined to continue our efforts to remove possible sources of difference and thus to contribute to assure the peace of Europe," and to it were attached the signatures of Adolf Hitler and Neville Chamberlain.

But after 1938 came 1939; after Munich, Prague; after Prague, Danzig . . .

And thus the "No more war" promise of September 1938 is just another scrap of paper. When shall the word of a German ever again be trusted?

We, the German Führer and Chancellor and the British Prime Minister, have had a further meeting today and are agreed in recognising that the question of Anglo-German relations is of the first importance for the two countries and for Europe.

We regard the agreement signed last night and the Anglo-German Naval Agreement as symbolic of the desire of our two peoples never to go to war with one another again.

We are resolved that the method of consultation shall be the method adopted to deal with any other questions that may concern our two countries, and we are determined to continue our efforts to remove possible sources of difference and thus to contribute to assure the peace of Europe.

Neville Chamberlain

September 30, 1938.

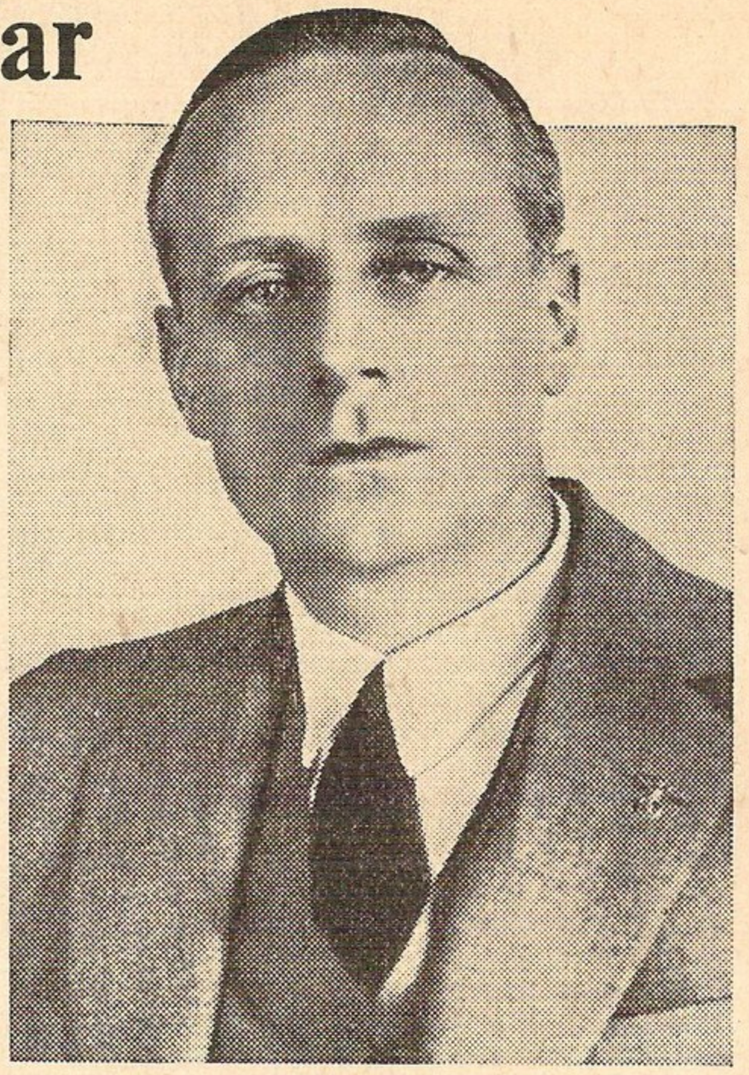
Here are illustrated the two "Scraps of Paper" referred to above. The first is the Treaty of April 19, 1839, guaranteeing the neutrality of Belgium; among the signatures may be seen those of Lord Palmerston, Britain's representative, and Bülow, who signed for Prussia. On the right is the document which Mr. Neville Chamberlain brought back from the Munich Conference; above the Premier's signature is that of Adolf Hitler. Both documents were treated as mere scraps of paper when it suited Germany to do so.

Right-hand photo, Wide World

These Men Sought War

Paul Joseph Goebbels, Reich Minister of Propaganda and supreme master of German press and radio. He practises his master's doctrine, "The bigger the lie the greater its value."

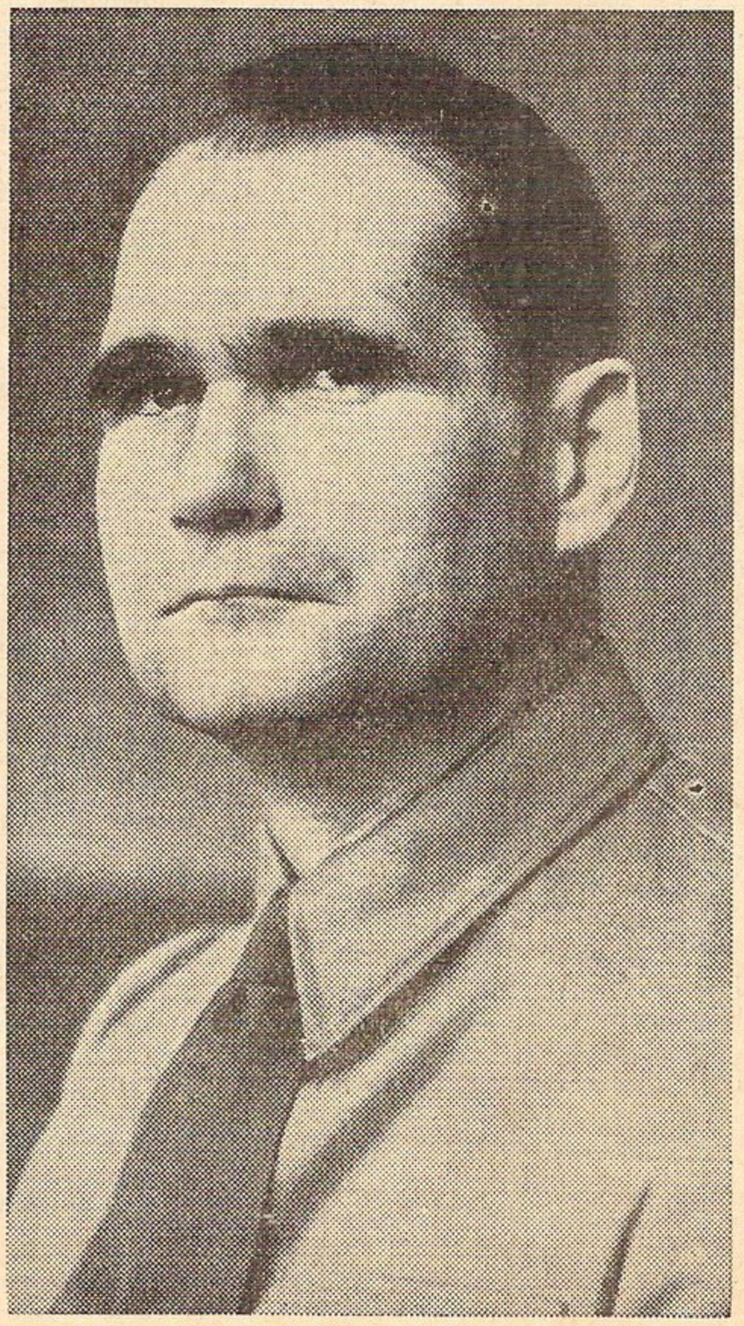
Adolf Hitler, born an Austrian, became the apostle of Pan-Germanism. Chancellor of the Reich since 1933 he has established his power on the doctrine of the Mailed Fist. (Below) Party leader Rudolph Hess has from the early days of the Nazi movement been Hitler's most trusted adherent.

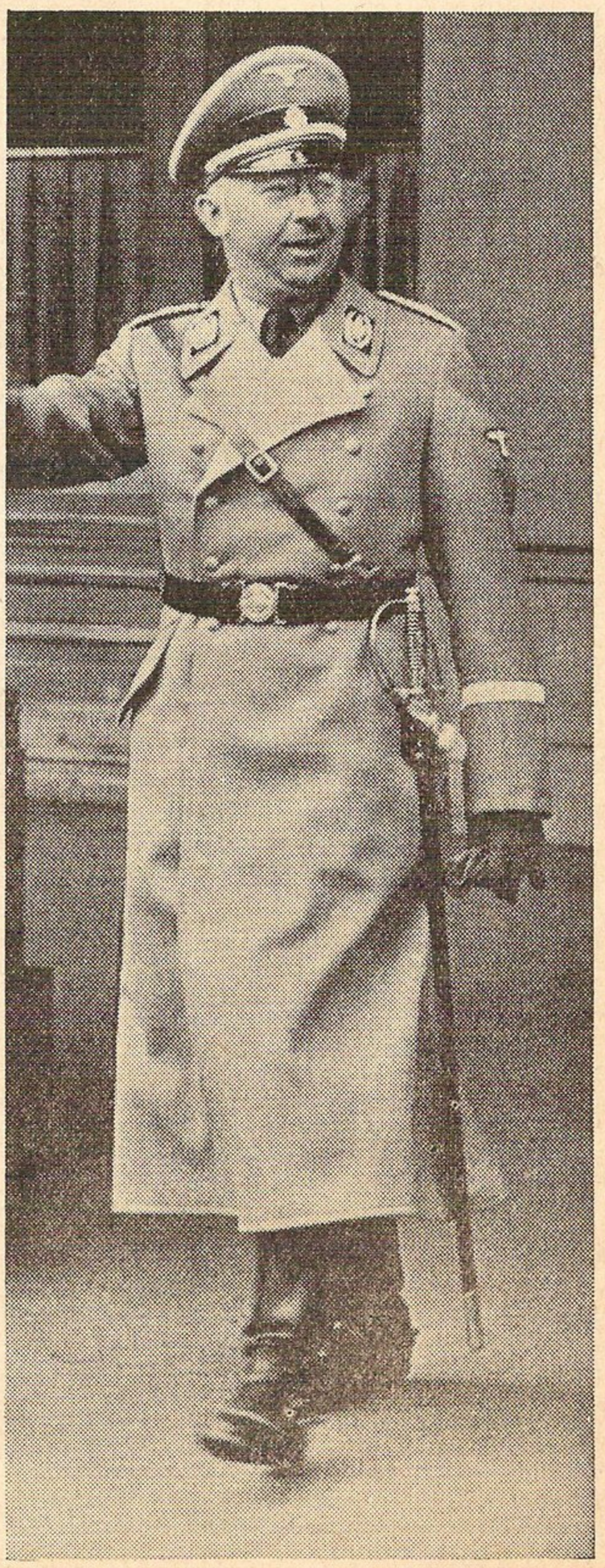


Joachim von Ribbentrop, Germany's Foreign Minister, was for a time the Reich's Ambassador at the Court of St. James's.

Field-Marshal Hermann Goering was recently nominated by Hitler to be his successor as Fuehrer of the German Reich.

Photos, Wide World, Associated Press, Mondiale

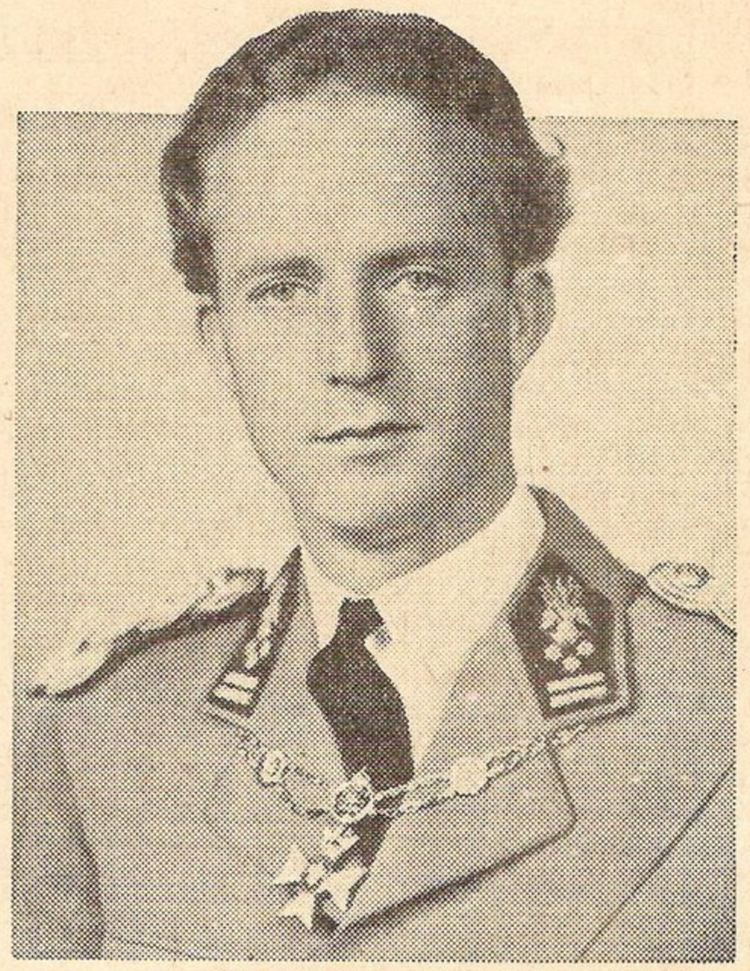




Heinrich Himmler is the dreaded head of Hitler's secret police, the Gestapo. His system of espionage reaches into every house in Germany.

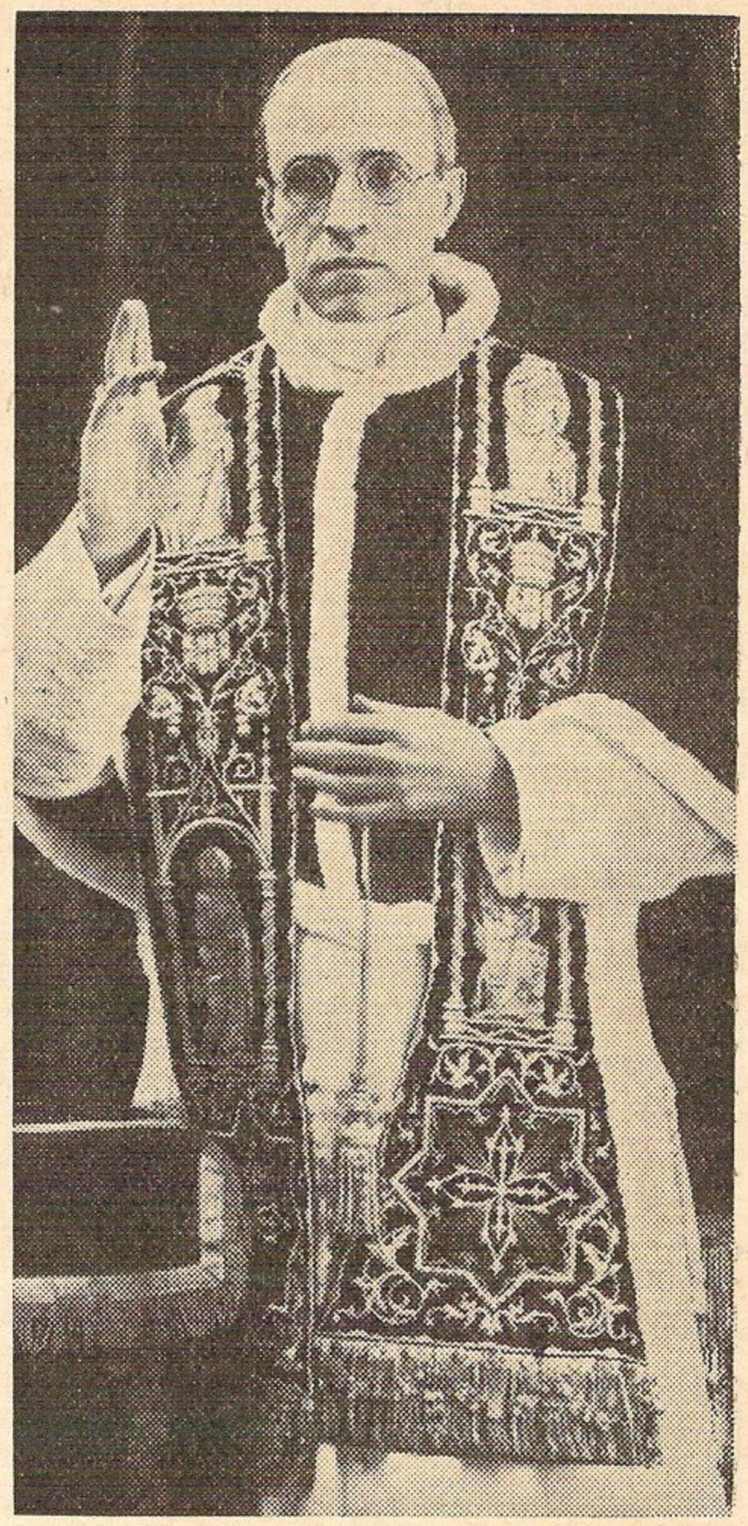
And These Are They Who Sought Peace

Neville Chamberlain Britain's Prime Minister comes first among those who made a noble stand for peace.



King Leopold of the Belgians broadcast a memorable appeal for sanity and reason to the whole world.

Signor Mussolini, speaking for Italy, made great efforts for appeasement until the last moment.



Pope Pius XII exerted all his great spiritual authority in appeals for "justice and charity."

Queen Wilhelmina of Holland joined in the appeal of King Albert and the Oslo Powers to Hitler.

In 1939, as in 1938, President Roosevelt voiced the feelings of America in his appeals to Germany.

Photos: Wide World & Speaight

WORDS THAT HISTORY WILL REMEMBER

A Record of the Vital Declarations and Solemn Statements of the World's Leaders

Wednesday, Aug. 23, 1939

King Leopold of the Belgians :

Broadcasting in the name of the King of Denmark, the President of Finland, the Grand Duchess of Luxemburg, the King of Norway, the Queen of Holland, and the King of Sweden he said :

" The world is living in such a period of tension that there is a risk that all international cooperation should become impossible. . . . Lack of confidence reigns everywhere. But there is no people which wants to send its children to their deaths. . . .

" We want peace with respect for the rights of all nations. It is our wish that the differences between nations should be submitted to conciliation in a spirit of goodwill. . . . Let those in whose hands rests the destiny of the peoples apply themselves to settle peacefully the differences which separate them."

After the announcement of the German-Soviet Pact the British Cabinet announced that " such an event would in no way affect their obligation to Poland which they have repeatedly stated in public and which they are determined to fulfil."

Thursday, Aug. 24

Mr. Chamberlain in House of Commons :

" The international position has steadily deterioriated, until today we find ourselves confronted with the imminent peril of war. . . . Nothing that we have done, or that we propose to do, menaces the legitimate interests of Germany. It is no act of menace to prepare to help friends to defend themselves against force. . . .

" War between our two countries, admitted on all sides to be the greatest calamity that could occur, is not desired either by our own people or the German people. We do not think of asking Germany to sacrifice her national interests, but we cannot agree that national interests can only be secured by the shedding of blood or the destruction of the independence of other states. . . .

" We want to see established an international order based upon mutual understanding and mutual confidence, and we cannot build such an order unless it conforms to certain principles which are essential to the establishment of confidence and trust. These principles must include the observance of international undertakings when they have once been entered into, and the renunciation of force in the settlement of differences. . . .

" If, despite all our efforts to find the way of peace, we find ourselves forced to embark upon a struggle which is bound to be fraught with suffering and misery for all mankind and the end of which no man can foresee, if that should happen, we shall not be fighting for the political future of a far-away city in a foreign land ; we shall be fighting for the preservation of those principles of which I have spoken, the destruction of which would involve the destruction of all possibility of peace and security for the peoples of the world. . . .

The Rt. Hon. Arthur Greenwood in House of Commons :

". . . The peril of war comes not from us. No democratic country will make war, but Britain, with others, will defend their own liberties and the liberties of those who are threatened by force, realizing that a threat to the liberty of one is a threat to the liberty of all. The aggressor must know that in our view liberty, like peace, is indivisible. . . ."

Friday, Aug. 25

President Roosevelt's appeal to Hitler :

" To the message which I sent you last April I have received no reply, but because my confident belief that the cause of world peace—which is the cause of humanity itself—rises above all other considerations, I am again addressing myself to you, with the hope that the war which impends and the consequent disaster to all peoples may yet be averted. . . .

" The people of the United States are as one in their opposition to policies of military conquest and domination. They are as one in rejecting the thesis that any ruler or any people possess the right to achieve their ends or objectives through the taking of action which will plunge countless millions into war, and which will bring distress and suffering to every nation of the world, belligerent and neutral, when such ends and objectives, so far as they are just and reasonable, can be satisfied through the processes of peaceful negotiation or by resort to judicial arbitration. . . ."

Saturday, Aug. 26

President Roosevelt's second appeal to Hitler :

" Countless human lives can yet be saved, and hope may still be restored that the nations of the modern world may even now construct the foundation for a peaceful and happier relationship if you and the Government of the German Reich will agree to the pacific means of settlement accepted by the Government of Poland."

M. Daladier's Letter to Herr Hitler :

" . . . up to the present there has been nothing which could prevent a peaceful solution of the international crisis with honour and dignity for all people if there is an equal will to peace on both sides. . . ."

Herr Hitler's Letter to M. Daladier :

" Danzig and the Corridor must return to Germany. The Macedonian conditions at our Eastern frontier must be removed. I see no way of being able to persuade Poland, which shields itself from attack under the protection of its guarantees, to accept a peaceful solution. But I would despair of an honourable future for my people if, in such circumstances, we were not determined to solve the question in one way or another."

Nothing in the Commons debate on September 1 gave such intense satisfaction as the forthright speech of Mr. Arthur Greenwood, Acting Leader of the official Labour Opposition.

Tuesday, Aug. 29

Mr. Chamberlain in the Commons :

" The British people are said sometimes to be slow to make up their minds, but having made them up they do not readily let go."

Friday, Sept. 1

Mr. Chamberlain in the Commons :

" No one, I think, can say that the Government could have done more to try and keep open the way for an honourable and equitable settlement of the dispute between Germany and Poland. Nor have we neglected any means of making it crystal clear to the German Government that if they insisted on using force again in the manner in which they had used it in the past we were resolved to oppose them by force. Now that all the relevant documents are being made public we shall stand at the bar of history knowing that the responsibility for this terrible catastrophe lies on the shoulders of one man. The German Chancellor has not hesitated to plunge the world into misery in order to serve his own senseless ambition. . . .

"It appears to the Governments of the United Kingdom and France that by their action the German Government have created conditions—namely, an aggressive act of force against Polish territory which threatens the independence of Poland—calling for the implementation by the Governments of the United Kingdom and France of the undertaking given to Poland.

" Unless the German Government are prepared to give his Majesty's Government satisfactory assurances that the German Government have suspended all aggressive action against Poland, and are prepared promptly to withdraw their forces from Polish territory, his Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom will, without hesitation, fulfil their obligation to Poland. . . .

" We have no quarrel with the German people except that they allow themselves to be governed by a Nazi government. As long as that government exists and pursues the methods it has so persistently followed during the last two years there will be no peace in Europe. . . ."

The Rt. Hon. Arthur Greenwood in House of Commons :

" . . . I now reaffirm for the third time in this House during the present crisis that British labour stands by its pledged word. At whatever cost, in the interests of the liberty of the world in the future we are to use all our resources to defend ourselves and others against aggression. . . .

" Herr Hitler has put himself grievously in the wrong. He has become the arch-enemy of mankind. He has been guilty, not merely of the basest and gravest treachery to this Government and this people, but he has been guilty of the basest treachery to all peoples to whom in the past he has given promises.

" I never thought that I should quote from a document of which Herr Hitler was the author, with approval, but in the proclamation to the army which he issued at six o'clock this morning, he said : ' In order to put an end to this lunacy I have no other choice than to meet force with force from now on. . . .'

" I was glad when the Prime Minister used words which I have used in our official declaration—' We have no quarrel with the German people,' but while we have no passion against the people we shall enter this struggle with a grim determination to overthrow and destroy that system of government which has trampled on freedom, crucified men and women, and which has brought the world back to the jack-boot of the old Prussian régime."

[*Further Declarations and Statements appear in later pages.*]

Slavs and Slaves Shake Hands

In a last effort at intimidation, Hitler broke completely with his traditional policy and allied himself with the "Bolshevik murderers" he had so often denounced.

Josef Stalin, Secretary-General of the Russian Communist Party, as seen by the cartoonist of 'Vu,' the Paris journal.

FOR years—since, indeed, the launching of the Nazi Party—Hitler, by written word and word of mouth, has declared in the most unequivocal fashion, the irreconcilability of German Nazism and Russian Bolshevism.

Turning the pages of "Mein Kampf," you will not go far before you find some expression of the Fuehrer's hatred of all that Bolshevism is and stands for. With passionate fervour he warns the German people never to forget that the pestilence which rots Russia is one that hangs perpetually over Germany, too. He paints the Bolshevists as vile and bloody tyrants—men who, favoured by circumstances, in a tragic hour for Russia, for Europe and for humanity, were enabled to overrun a great State, massacring in the process millions of their countrymen. Never (he says) in the whole of history, has there been a terror so horrible as that which was set up in Russia. And it goes without question that directing this Terror are members of that race which combines the most bestial cruelty with enormous skill in lying—the Jews!

In his speeches, too, Hitler has been at no pains to give expression to the belief that Nazism and Bolshevism are ideological opposites. At Nuremberg, in September, 1936, he said that: "We see in Bolshevism a bestial, mad doctrine which is a threat to us. In the past Bolshevism tried to work on our territory just as it is now trying to push its military forces ever closer to our frontiers. We exterminated Bolshevism on our own ground. We warded off the attempt to infect Germany from Moscow."

On February 22, 1938, he said that with one country "we have refused to enter into relations. That State is Soviet Russia. We see in Bolshevism the incarnation of human destructive forces." At the Nuremberg Congress of 1938 he declared that "the danger of Bolshevist destruction in other nations is towering over our world more menacingly than ever."

The Anti-Comintern Pact made by Germany, first with Japan and then later with Italy as well, was regarded in Moscow as a direct threat to Soviet Russia. In the Spanish Civil War German airmen, troops, and technicians helped General Franco to save Spain from what Hitler declared in his address to the returning warriors was "the fire of a revolution fanned by international forces, which was intended to lay not only Spain, but Europe, in dust and ashes."

We can thus understand the gasp of amazement which went round the world when on August 21, 1939, it was announced that Germany and Russia were to sign a pact of non-aggression, and that von Ribbentrop would proceed to Moscow on August 23 for that purpose.

WHIPHAND

Low's masterly cartoon in the London "Evening Standard" well suggests the way in which the blindfolded German masses are being driven by Hitler like slaves to the slaughter. Below, Stalin and von Ribbentrop are shaking hands after they had signed the German-Soviet Pact—the Pact in which two great peoples were treated as mere pawns in the game of high politics.

So complete a reversal of policy was almost without precedent in history.

Some said that the Pact demonstrated that Nazism and Bolshevism were but different faces of the same thing. Others saw in it a clumsy attempt by the Nazi diplomatists to frighten Britain and France from implementing their agreements with Poland.

If this were indeed the reason, it failed in its object. The Nazis forgot that to the Democracies treaties are solemn obligations, and policy has its foundations in something more substantial than the shifting sands of a temporizing diplomacy.

Germany on the Eve of the Nazi Betrayal

WHEN, a week before the invasion of Poland, the correspondents of the British Press were withdrawn from Berlin, a curtain descended upon Germany, cutting it off, as it were, from the outside world. Occasionally it was moved by the breath of rumour, but it was lifted only when a traveller returned to Britain with the stories of what he had heard and seen.

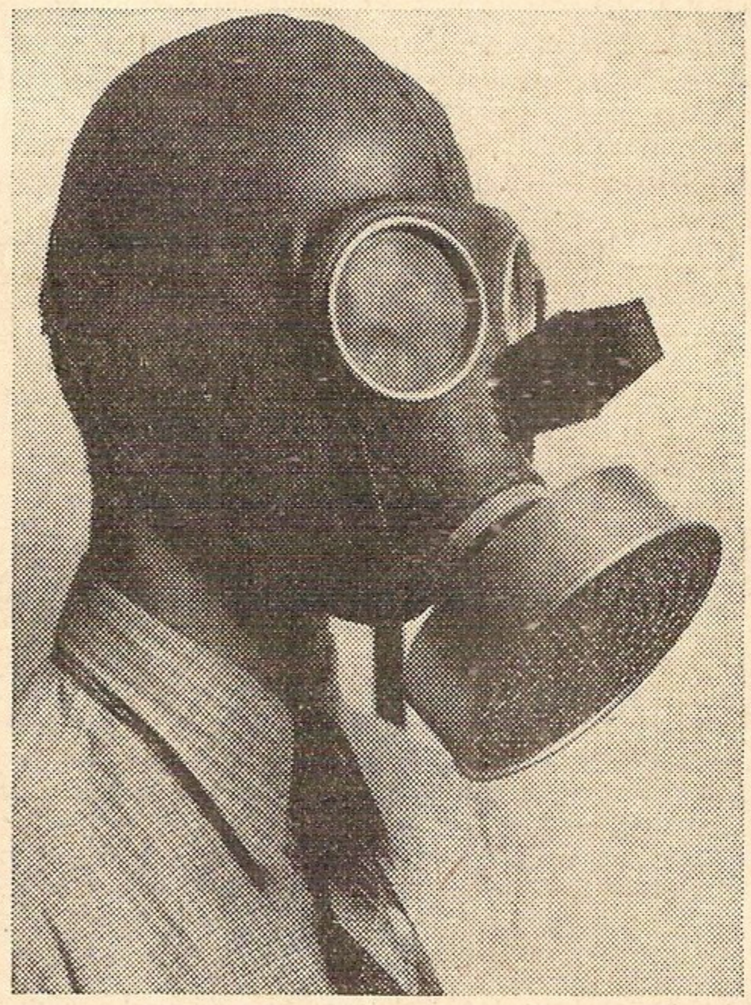
Judging from these first-hand reports, Germany was not so much surprised at learning that she was on the verge of war as stunned. "People with anxious faces stood at street corners talking in whispers," said Mr. William Hood, who reached London after a 42-hour train journey from Munich. "During the previous two weeks no one seemed to believe that war with Britain would really come. The sudden darkening of the city, the train delays, and finally the news of mobilization, came as a shock to people informed of world events only by state-controlled newspapers and radio."

Colonel T. F. Tweed, Mr. Lloyd George's political officer, who returned to England after a 3,000 mile tour of Germany and Austria, said that "the most eloquent summing-up of the situation was made by a professor at an ancient university town with the remark: 'The German people do not wish for war, but no longer do we decide such things for ourselves!'"

The most vivid picture of Germany on the eve of war was given by Miss Virginia Cowles, special correspondent of the "Sunday Times," who left Germany on the afternoon of Saturday, September 2nd, after a flying visit to Berlin. Writing on that day she said that the great majority of the German people did not even then believe that the German attack on Poland would lead to a world war. The morning papers had carried no news of the British and French ultimatum, but had printed only some obscure paragraphs referring to the general mobilization. When she crossed into Holland from Germany at noon, not one of the throng of Germans on the platform was aware of the probability that in a few hours Germany would be at war with Britain and France.

A black-out on the preceding night had flung a heavy cloak of war over Berlin, but there was still a general feeling that Hitler would pull off the Polish coup just as he had done in the case of the Anschluss and the dismemberment of Czechoslovakia.

Hitler's announcement in the Reichstag that Danzig was now German created an atmosphere of unmistakable alarm, and his radio address in which he declared his intention of subduing Poland by force was greeted by a surprising lack of enthusiasm. Only two or three hundred people gathered in the square before the Chancellery to cheer him as he appeared on the balcony dressed for the first time in the field grey of the German Army, his face tense and unsmiling.



"We got back to the hotel," says Miss Cowles, "to find waiters and porters whispering together in low, strained voices. When I asked one of the men if he was not aware of the fact that Germany had precipitated a world war, he looked at me in despair, and said, 'Mein Gott, I hope not; I had four years in the last one and that was enough!'"

As she left Berlin, Miss Cowles carried with her an impression of a city which was like an armed camp—a city whose foreboding atmosphere was accentuated by the silhouettes of men mounting the anti-aircraft guns on the roofs.

"We roared towards Cologne through a silent and darkened Germany in which all the lights were extinguished and the blinds had been drawn." The Germans in the compartment were only mildly apprehensive. One of them explained that Britain would not be so foolish as to risk a world war; suggestively he drew his finger across his neck and said, "After we cut Poland's throat we will all settle down to peace."

His attitude of easy optimism was, however, the exception.

"One's reaction of Germany on the eve of a great war," concluded Miss Cowles, "is that one is torn between pity and horror. One is struck by the tragedy of a great people living in a vacuum of ignorance, and appalled by the gangster philosophy of the Third Reich."

Above, the Reichstag Deputies are seen assembled in the Ambassadors' Hall of the New Chancellery in Berlin on August 27, acclaiming the Fuehrer when he made his last warlike speech four days before he invaded Poland. The top photograph shows the type of gas mask now used by the civil population of Germany.

Photo, Wide World

The Audacious Raid—R.A.F. Bombs German Fleet

Hardly had a state of war between Britain and Germany come into operation when on Sept. 4 the R.A.F. began its offensive. Sweeping across the North Sea, bombers raided the German fleet and did damage to an extent surpassing far that which would have satisfied their most ardent hopes.

DISPLAYING that audacity and dash which characterized their predecessors of the last war, the R.A.F. commenced hostilities against Germany with a lightning raid on the German fleet in its harbours at Wilhelmshaven, Cuxhaven and Brunsbuttel at the entrance of the Kiel Canal.

Their work was well done, for the official communiqué issued after their exploit records that several direct hits with heavy bombs were registered on a German battleship in Schilling Roads, off Wilhelmshaven, which resulted in severe damage, while at Brunsbuttel the attack was carried out on a battleship lying alongside the mole, again causing heavy damage. It should be added that the operation was carried out in very unfavourable weather conditions, and that the attacking aircraft had to meet both air attack and heavily concentrated anti-aircraft fire. Small wonder that in the circumstances some of the raiders failed to return.

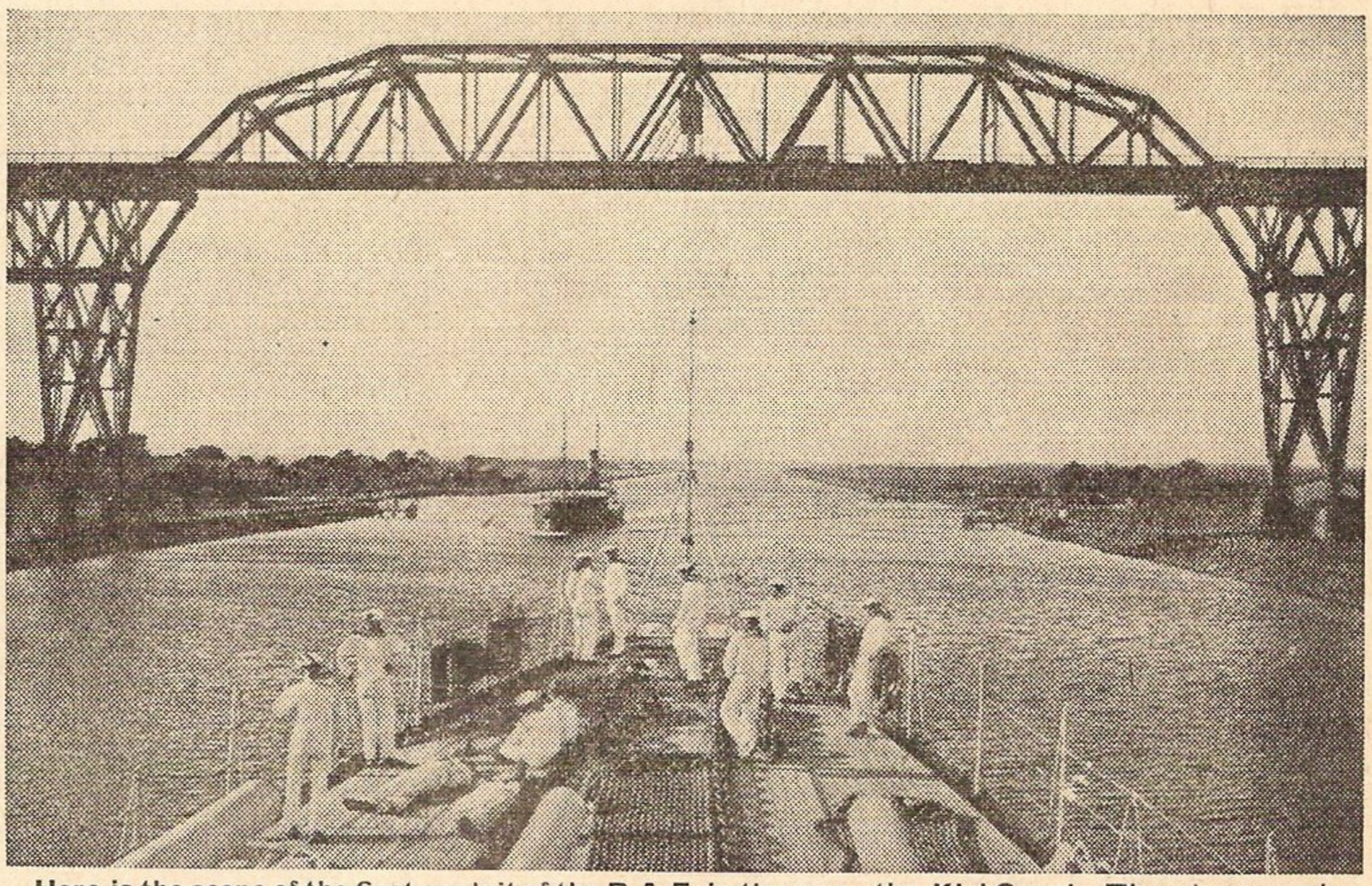
The daring exploit reminds us of one of the first of the innumerable gallant episodes in the history of Britain's air-force. It was on Christmas Day of 1914 that nine British seaplanes, with some submarines in support, made a raid on the German base at Cuxhaven. So small and low-powered were the seaplanes of those days that they could not be relied upon to fly across the North Sea, let alone take with them a supply of bombs, however light. Hence the 'planes were carried most of the way across the water in three cross-Channel steamers, Engadine, Riviera and Empress, each of which had been fitted up to carry seaplanes.

By 6 a.m. on Christmas morning, the little flotilla had reached a position twelve miles north of Heligoland, and an hour later seven of the seaplanes flew off to their destinations. The other two, however, failed to take off, and their flights were consequently abandoned.

The remaining five sped across the sea to the German coast. Heavy frost and fog on land made bombing difficult, and what was worse, by the time the missiles had been dropped upon the objectives, fuel was running short. The attacking 'planes turned about to return to their parent ships. Only three of the pilots returned at once, though the others were picked up later—three by a British submarine and another by a trawler.

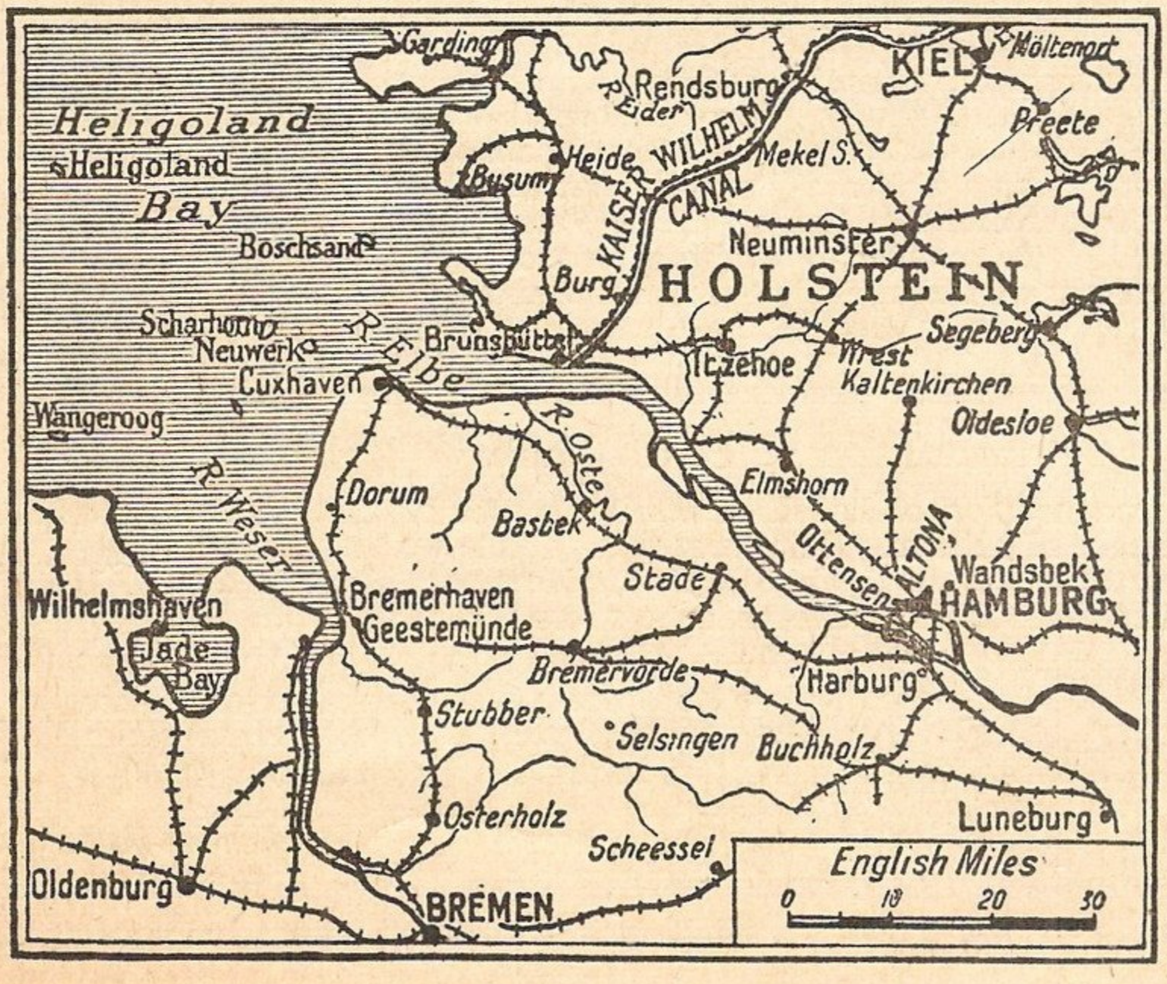
This air attack was not directed against the German High Seas Fleet, for such small bombers, however intrepidly flown, could not hope to damage to any worthwhile extent the enormous fleet that Germany had built in readiness for "Der Tag." The actual objective was to destroy Zeppelins—then the only enemy aircraft that could reach England and return—some of which were housed in sheds at Cuxhaven. A reconnaissance of German harbours was another object, and in this the raid was more successful than in destroying the Zeppelins.

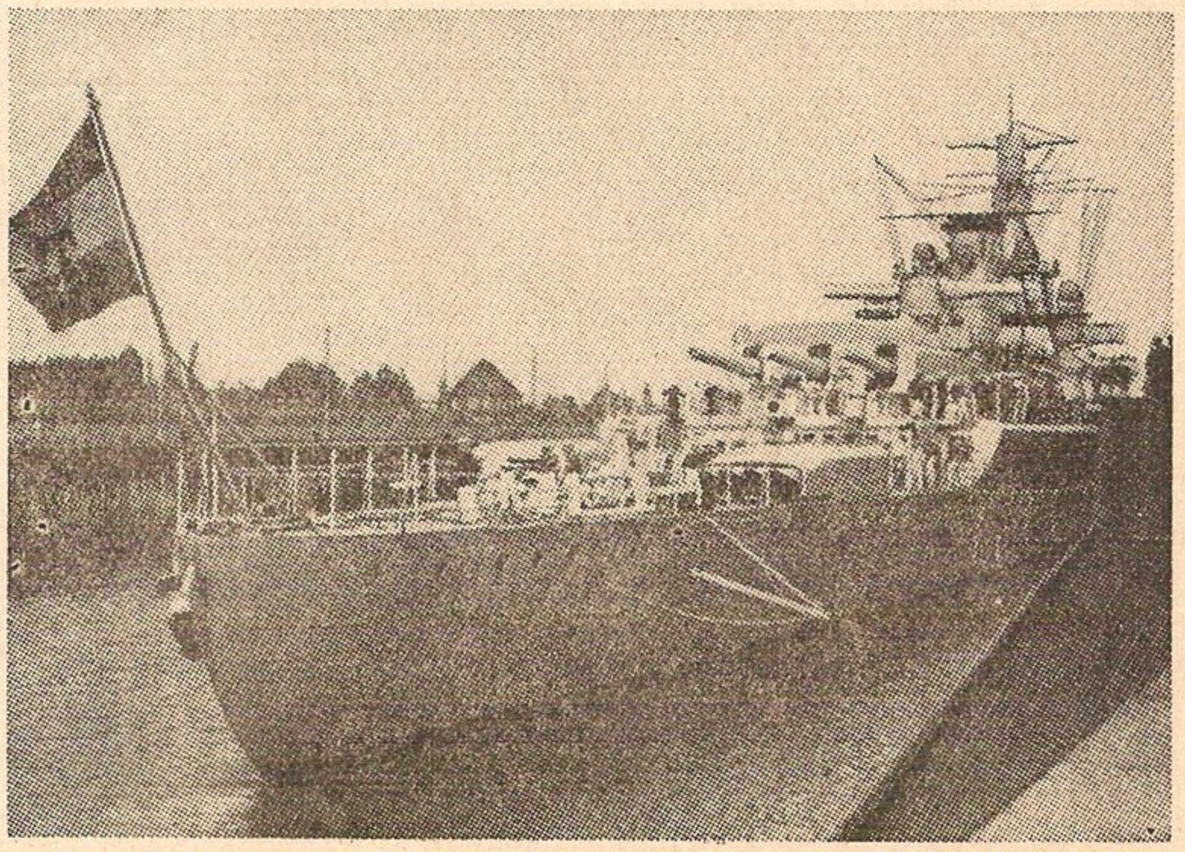
Today it is a very different story, for serious damage to two ships out of a fleet that can boast only two battleships of 26,000 tons and three "pocket battleships" of 10,000 tons each, may justifiably be described as a major naval disaster.



Here is the scene of the first exploit of the R.A.F. in the war—the Kiel Canal. The photograph was taken from the deck of a German warship, perchance one of the vessels which were seriously damaged by the bombs dropped by the audacious invaders.

Photos, Keystone and E.N.A.





Above is the Deutschland at Brunsbuttel. She is one of the "pocket battleships" of 10,000 tons which Germany laid down in 1929. She is armed with nine 11-inch and twelve 6-inch guns. Left, a map of the area and places raided on Sept. 4, 1939.

Our Diary of the War

Wednesday, August 23, 1939

German-Soviet Pact of Non-Aggression signed in Moscow by Von Ribbentrop and Molotoff, in presence of Stalin.

Sir Nevile Henderson, British Ambassador to Germany, delivered to Hitler a message from the British Government and a personal letter from the Prime Minister.

King Leopold of Belgium broadcast an appeal for peace to all nations on behalf of seven small states.

Thursday, August 24

The King arrived in London from Balmoral and held a Privy Council.

Parliament met and passed the Emergency Powers (Defence) Act.

President Roosevelt sent an appeal to King Victor Emmanuel, urging the calling of a peace conference.

The Pope broadcast an appeal for peace.

Von Ribbentrop returned from Moscow and immediately saw Hitler.

British subjects warned to leave Germany.

Herr Forster proclaimed himself Head of the State of Danzig.

Friday, August 25

Sir Nevile Henderson called on Hitler at the latter's request, as also did French, Italian and Japanese envoys.

Hitler cancelled Tannenberg celebrations.

Anglo-Polish Agreement of Mutual Assistance signed in London.

Mussolini was twice in telephonic communication with Hitler.

President Roosevelt sent messages to Hitler and Polish President urging settlement of differences by direct negotiation, arbitration or conciliation at the hands of a disinterested Power.

Germans advised by their Embassy to leave Great Britain.

German merchant ships ordered by their Government to remain in or return to German ports.

Saturday, August 26

Sir Nevile Henderson flew to London with a message from Hitler. The reply was considered at a meeting of the Cabinet at which Sir Nevile was present.

Hitler received the French Ambassador after day of consultation with his advisers.

The Nazi Party "Congress of Peace" at Nuremberg was cancelled.

Germany gave assurances of respect for the frontiers of Belgium, Holland and Switzerland.

Further messages exchanged between Hitler and Mussolini.

Roosevelt made a second appeal to Hitler for the maintenance of peace, enclosing the reply from the Polish President.

Sunday, August 27

The Cabinet met to consider the reply to Hitler's proposals.

Hitler rejected a proposal from M. Daladier that one more attempt should be made at direct negotiation between Germany and Poland. At the conclusion of the letter Hitler made the clear demand that Danzig and the Corridor must return to the Reich.

Rationing introduced in Germany.

Admiralty assumed control of British merchant shipping.

The entire German-Polish frontier was closed to railway traffic.

Stated that France now had about 3,000,000 men under arms.

Monday, August 28

British Government's reply to Hitler was delivered to him by Sir Nevile Henderson.

Defence Regulations, made under the Emergency Powers (Defence) Act, were issued by the Stationery Office.

The Mediterranean was closed to British ships on orders from the Admiralty.

Government of Holland ordered the mobilization of the Army and Navy.

Fall of Japanese Cabinet.

Tuesday, August 29

Hitler handed to Sir Nevile Henderson his reply to the British note, making at the same time verbal explanations. The reply was immediately transmitted in code to London. It was stated in Berlin that the British proposal of direct negotiation between Germany and Poland had been accepted provided that a Polish plenipotentiary arrived in Berlin within 24 hours.

At a brief sitting of both Houses of Parliament, statements on the crisis were made by Lord Halifax and the Prime Minister.

Germany occupied Slovakia as a "protection" from the Poles. Poland issued a protest.

The diplomatic representatives of Great Britain, France and Poland accepted an offer of mediation made jointly by Queen Wilhelmina and King Leopold.

Wednesday, August 30

The Poles declined to send a plenipotentiary under menace.

The Cabinet considered Hitler's last communication and sent a reply to Berlin, which was handed to Von Ribbentrop shortly after midnight by Sir Nevile Henderson.

Hitler issued a decree setting up a Council of Ministers for the Defence of the State. Field-Marshal Goering was appointed chairman and invested with very wide powers.

Thursday, August 31

The Soviet-German Pact was ratified by the Supreme Council in Moscow.

The German Government broadcast a 16-point plan for a settlement with Poland. In spite of the fact that this was the first time that the Polish Government heard of them, it was stated that the German Government had waited in vain two days for the arrival of a Polish negotiator, and therefore considered that the proposals had been rejected.

British Fleet mobilized.

French railways under military control.

The Pope made a new peace appeal, notes being handed to all envoys of foreign countries attached to the Holy See.

Friday, September 1, 1939

Poland was invaded by German forces from East Prussia, Slovakia and the main body of the Reich in the early morning. No declaration of war had been made.

Britain and France delivered final warnings to Hitler to withdraw from Poland.

General mobilization proclaimed in Britain and France.

Statements on the German invasion of Poland were made in both Houses of Parliament. In the Commons war credits totalling £500,000,000 were voted. A number of emergency measures were passed through all their stages.

President Roosevelt appealed to Great Britain, France, Italy, Poland and Germany to refrain from bombing civilians and unfortified towns, and received assurances from Britain, France and Poland. Italy replied that she was not concerned, as she was remaining neutral.

Hitler, addressing the Reichstag, gave his reasons for the invasion of Poland, and subsequently a Bill entitled "The Law for the Reunion of Danzig with the German Reich" was passed with acclamation.

The evacuation of British school children from exposed and congested areas was begun, and nearly 500,000 were moved.

The Government took over control of the railways.

Saturday, September 2

Mr. Chamberlain announced in the House of Commons that Germany's delay in replying to the British warning might be due to consideration of a proposal, put forward by Mussolini, for a Five-Power Conference.

The British and French Governments consulted on the question of a time limit for Hitler's reply.

Bill for compulsory military service between the ages of 18 and 41 passed.

Fighting in Poland increased in intensity. Warsaw was bombed six times.

Hitler sent a favourable answer to Roosevelt's appeal against bombing open towns.

British Government received pledges of support from Canada, Australia and New Zealand and from 46 Indian rulers.

Berlin officially denied that either gas or incendiary bombs had been used during raids on Polish towns.

Sunday, September 3

A final British note was presented in Berlin at 9 a.m. giving Hitler until 11 a.m. to give an undertaking to withdraw his troops from Poland.

At 11.15 Mr. Chamberlain, in a broadcast to the nation, stated that "no such undertaking had been received and that consequently this country is at war with Germany."

The French ultimatum, presented at 12.30 p.m., expired at 5 p.m.

The German reply rejected the stipulations that German troops should withdraw from Poland, and accused the British Government of forcing the war on Germany.

Fierce fighting on both Polish fronts.

A War Cabinet of nine members was created, to include Mr. Churchill as First Lord of the Admiralty.

The King broadcast a message to his peoples.

Hitler left Berlin to assume command on the Eastern front.

German submarine torpedoed and sank without warning the British liner *Athenia*, 200 miles north-west of Ireland.

Roosevelt announced that U.S.A. would remain neutral.

Mr. de Valera announced that Eire would remain neutral.

Australia and New Zealand declared war on Germany.

Pronunciation of Polish Names

The correct pronunciation of Polish names is a matter of difficulty and frequent difference of opinion. Here from time to time we shall give the best approximate equivalents in English sounds of names of persons and places of immediate interest. Note that the stress is always on the last syllable but one.

Moscicki	*mosh-tsee-ski*	Katowice	*ka-to-vee-che*
Smigly-Rydz	*shmig-li ridz*	Westerplatte	*ves-ter-pla-te*
Skladkowski	*skwad-kof-ski*	Grudziadz	*groo-jonts*
Kasprzycki	*kasp-zheet-ski*	Cracow	*kra-kof*
Jaroslaw	*ya-ros-waf*	Czestochowa	*chan-sto-ho-va*
Dzialdowo	*jal-do-vo*	Chojnice	*hoy-neet-se*